

# Chile

## I. Its Varied Climes & Its Virile People

By J. A. Hammerton

Author of "The Argentine Through English Eyes"

THE best way to arrive in Chile is across the Andes. Few sensations of travel equal, and scarcely any can surpass, the first sight of the great green valleys that lie at the feet of the majestic mountains up which the railway has so toilsomely borne us, and down whose western declivities we proceed at scarcely any increase of pace, but with giddy heads as we behold the vast slopes falling steeply into the immense mysterious hollows of these mountain masses. As the traveller descends farther and farther into this charming land of the Far West, even though the obsession of the everlasting Argentine pampa has already been somewhat dissipated by the sight of the vineyards and sub-tropical vegetation on the eastern slopes of the great mountain range, the marvellous riot of colour and cultivated luxuriance of flower and fruit which greet us in Central Chile come as a pleasurable shock.

The Chileans are a small people; they are less than four millions in number. Their country, too, is small, as sizes go in South America. It is a strip of coast some 2,800 miles long, and although that is between

three and four times as long as Great Britain, the land is very narrow. At no point is it broader than three hundred miles, its average breadth being less than one hundred. This strip is bounded for a very long distance by the magnificent Andes mountains, which therefore dominate the landscape. From most parts of the country their snowy summits can be seen. They endow with a crisp and invigorating air its climate, which, though varying greatly between the most northerly and the

southerly latitudes, may be described on the whole as temperate and healthy. This, in its turn, has influenced the Chilean temperament. The people are notably less impulsive, less excitable than Brazilians or Argentines. They are sedate in their manners, less voluble. The streets of even the large towns are oddly silent. The usual noisy manifestations of city life are not so noticeable, there is no hubbub of talk among the pedestrians along the pavements. Even the students as they come from their classes walk sedately and show little of the "animal spirits" of youth. All classes are



ONE OF THE CARABINEROS

These are picked men of the Chilean military establishment, splendidly mounted, and in the wilder places of the Andes they are a terror to evil-doers

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### HOW THE CHILEAN MANTO IS WORN

The manto is a peculiarly Chilean item of woman's dress. It consists of thin black material drawn over the head and folded and pinned round the neck, the rest of it hanging gracefully over much of the costume

*Photo, Rivas Freire*

pleasant in their manners, but they are not effusive with strangers. Some visitors have called their quietness "melancholy," but the same observers would probably say that the English used to be melancholy before they threw off their reserve and let their emotions have freer play. The shadow of the mountains lies upon the national character, and has been blamed for the prevalence of drunkenness among the labouring classes. Chile, like Scotland, certainly favours the theory that hilly countries breed a taste for stimulants.

It has become a commonplace to compare the Chileans with the English, and they like it; but some of them prefer to be known as "los yanquis del sur," the Yankees of the South

(believing themselves so go-ahead and energetic in comparison with the other Latin Americans). Although in the mass of people the prevailing colour of hair and eyes is dark, many exceptions are to be seen; fair hair and almost blue eyes are not by any means unknown among them, as among the inhabitants of Spain itself. They are fonder of joking than other South American races; even practical jokes, which elsewhere would be resented as unpardonable and might lead to bloodshed, are practised among them with good-natured enjoyment. There is less of the so-called melancholy among the educated than among the mass of people. In the clubs one hears a flow of lively conversation. The greetings are hearty. The prevailing mood seems to be one of cheerfulness, even of gaiety.

In Chile, as in England until recent years, the horse is preferred to the motor. There are still far more who drive horses than who are owners of cars. But the reason is different: there are few roads fit for motoring, while the splendid horses of the country, which still show strong evidence of the old Arab strain, can go everywhere, and are indispensable to all who live away from the large towns. Racing is one of their favourite amusements. So far are some of them carried by their passion for this form of gambling—for that is all it amounts to—that they gather to listen to descriptions of races given through the telephone by an eye-witness on the course. As the race is going on the eye-witness speaks into the telephone, saying which horses lead; describes the running, and any





#### WHERE STREET DEPORTMENT IS CONTROLLED BY CONVENTIONALISM

In the cities of Chile European dress and ways are much in vogue ; nevertheless, it would come amiss for a lady to be seen casually conversing with a man, even a relative, in the street, and " mixed " companies in the public thoroughfares are not common except on Sundays during church-going hours, or in the plazas when the bands play



#### RETURNING FROM CHURCH SERVICE AT SANTIAGO

A very characteristic group of Santiago ladies is seen in this photograph, which is also an excellent illustration of the variety of ways in which the manto may be worn effectively and yet conform to the Church regulation which prohibits the women of the country from entering the sanctuary with any other form of headdress

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incidents that may occur ; and ends up with a thrilling account of the finish. Many miles away a crowd listens breathless to his description, and gets, although at second-hand, the excitement of the course.

In Chile, too, one finds old houses set amidst delightful gardens, with avenues of trees, lawns, flower-beds, and fountains, just as they might have been laid out by an English landscape gardener of the nineteenth century.

### Wealth of Flower and Fruit

The flowers are, of course, far more profuse in their growth and more varied in their form and colouring ; but there are hedgerows as in England, and these are covered in early summer with the dog-rose, while in autumn they are weighted with blackberries. This delicious fruit is as little appreciated by the Chileans as it was thirty years ago by the country population of England. When they systematically gather the crop, which is abundant beyond the belief of those who have only seen the blackberry under European skies, they will be able to add to their prosperity largely by exporting jam.

The strawberry, too, ripens to perfection in Chile, which again reminds the British visitor of his own country. This the Chileans do value. Strawberry culture is well understood, and huge beds are to be seen in all parts where the conditions are favourable. Chile is a land of abundant fruit. The peach, the pear, the fig, the quince, all flourish. Walnut trees do very well. In certain districts excellent apples are grown. The grapes make good wine. The cherimoya, a species of custard apple, also grows in profusion.

### A Smiling Fairyland

There is no more beautiful scene than a Chilean spring-time landscape in the great longitudinal valley anywhere south of the province of Aconcagua. Save that the massive peaks of the Andes are always distantly in view to the east, and the lower coastal range lies purple against the sunset to the west, the country within this valley has

ordinarily many of the features of Kent or Sussex, but in spring-time every tree is laden with blossom—blossoms red, white, blue, yellow, and pale green. It is then a veritable fairyland of colour, and in this respect unlike any I have ever looked upon elsewhere. North of Valparaiso the landscape begins to change, and great stony hillsides covered with thousands of that fantastic tree known as the "monkey puzzle," which is a native of the country and is properly named the Chile pine (*Araucaria imbricata*), hem in the lesser valleys, where meadowland and orchard still exist, though with lessening fertility as we near the great plantless regions of the north, where desert sand and nitrate allow no green thing to flourish.

From this it may be gathered that in the main it is a smiling country, which leaves a comfortable impression of natural wealth and of a nation that benefits by this as a whole, instead of letting the cream be taken off by a small number, leaving only skim milk for the rest. The rows of tall poplars which fringe the roads and fields add to the charm of the landscape.

### English Views of Home and Women

The rich colouring of flowers and flowering shrubs rejoices the eye. The land speaks of careful tilth and of a pride in possession.

The plots are divided by neat mud walls, with tiled tops to them to prevent their destruction in the rainy seasons. The farmsteads are snug. On stock farms the fences are well kept, and the grass land plenteous in feed for horses and cattle. In the south there are large flocks of British sheep, owned mostly by British settlers, several of whom came from New Zealand, and have done very well for themselves and for their adopted country ; and there are still greater numbers of German farmers in the southern provinces 'twixt Concepción and Llanquihui.

Yet another point in which the Chileans like to think they are nearer to the English than to any other race is the growth among them of a comparative freedom for women. It is necessary





#### PLANTING A MEMORIAL TREE AT A SANTIAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL

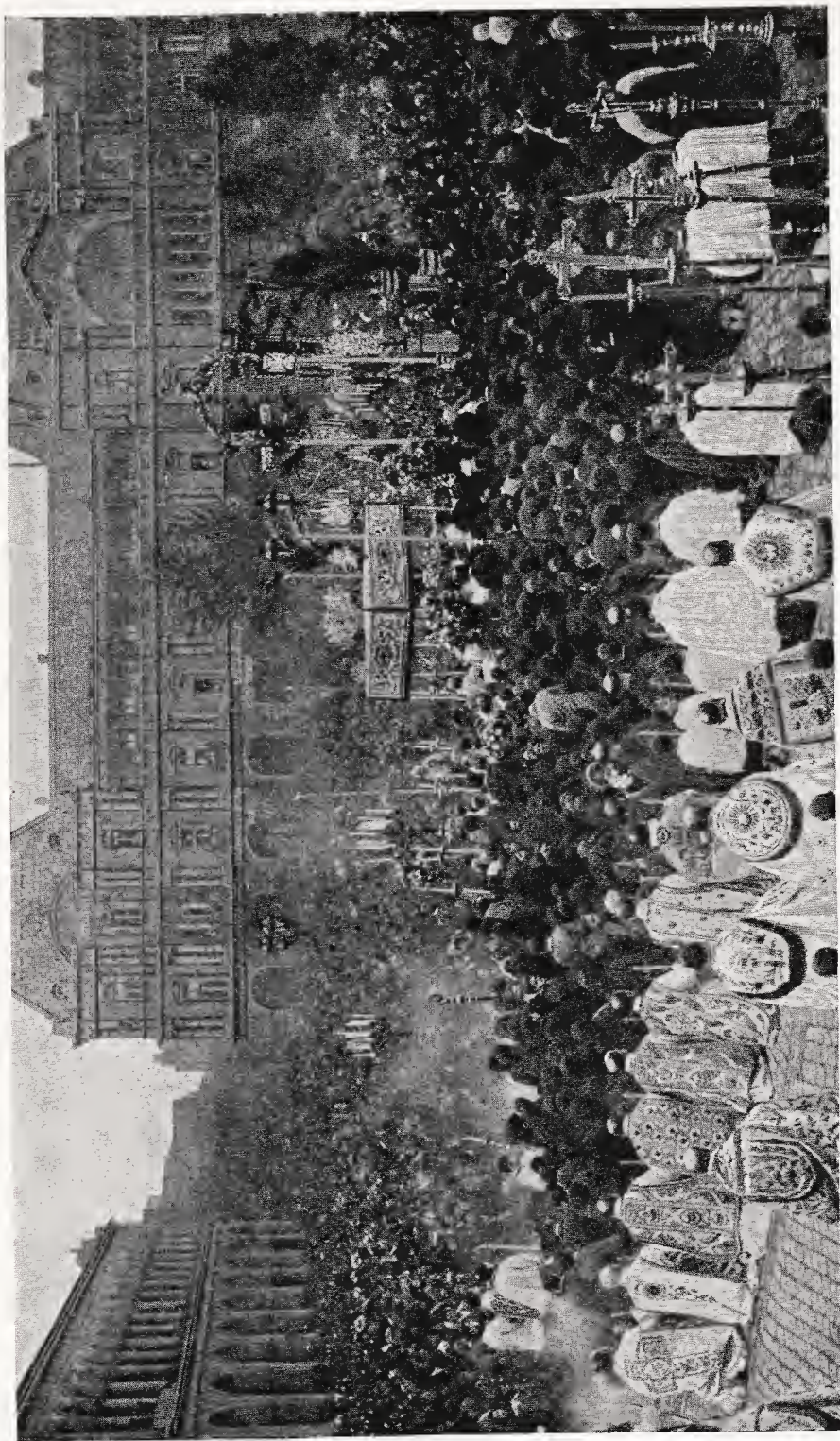
There is enthusiasm for education among the Chileans, and especially in the capital city, where there are also excellent schools of agriculture and engineering, two sciences vital to the prosperity of the land. There is a sentimental love of ceremony among the people, and the planting of a memorial tree at one of the public schools is treated with becoming gravity



#### ENCOURAGING THE STUDY OF BOTANY AMONG SANTIAGO SCHOOLGIRLS

In a country of such natural profusion as Chile, the student of botany has the richest fields to explore, and the educational authorities are very active in promoting the study of this science. These little maids in their businesslike school frocks are busy with their carefully-labelled flower-pots. They appreciate the benefits of outdoor lessons to the full



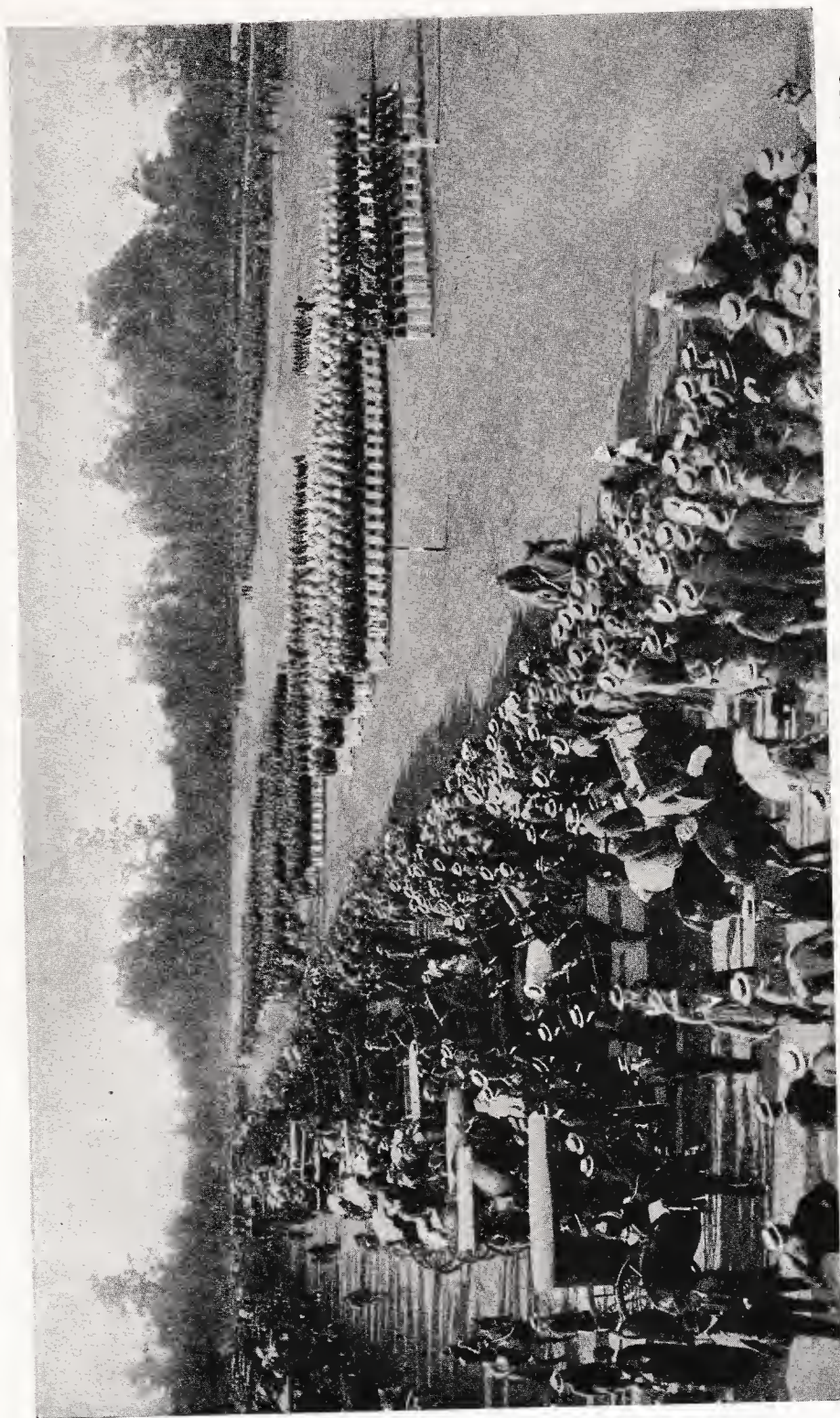


IMPOSING RELIGIOUS CEREMONY IN THE PLAZA DE ARMAS AT SANTIAGO

The ascendancy of the Church, which is very remarkable throughout Chile, is nowhere more conspicuous than in the capital city. Here religious ceremonials and processions occur frequently, and are observed with obvious signs of reverence by immense crowds, though the women are chiefly the real devotees. The traffic of the central parts of Santiago is often held up so that some feast day of the Church may have due observance

*Photo, Allan, Valparaiso*





**SPECTACLE DEAR TO THE HEART OF EVERY CHILEAN: MILITARY REVIEW IN THE COUSIÑO PARK, SANTIAGO**  
Chile's military success in the war of the Pacific, when she thrashed Bolivia and Peru, has bred in her people a warlike disposition which takes pride in the display of armed strength. Thanks to their German instructors, the Chilean army has been organized on very efficient lines, and its annual manoeuvres create widespread interest. Military reviews in Santiago are common, the magnificent spaces of this beautifully laid out park offering unusual facilities for picturesque display



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### CATS' MEAT MAN IN SANTIAGO

The vendor of cats' meat in Chile differs from his prototype in London chiefly in the easy way he carries his main basket on his head

*Photo, Gallardo*

to insert "comparative," for it is only when we take into account the women of other South American states that those of Chile can be called emancipated. They have to some extent risen above the condition of playthings for men, but they are still very carefully sheltered while they are girls. None of the liberty which the North American and the English girl have long enjoyed, and which the French girl since the War seems inclined to claim also, has yet been granted to the young women of Chile. The married women do, some of them, enjoy comradeship with men. They have induced men to treat them as reasonable beings, not as pets who must be cajoled with compliments, nor as the natural prey of any man who can capture them by soft speeches and

sentimental humbug. They go about more freely than do women in the Argentine or in Brazil. The Chileans, indeed, were among the first nations to encourage women to earn their living by work in competition with men. They had women street-car conductors even before the Great War, which introduced them in so many countries when men became scarce. The beauty of Chilean women is celebrated, and there are many records of their intelligence and bravery as well.

One oft-quoted example which illustrates these qualities was given by the sixteen-year-old daughter of Don Claudio Vicuña, a prominent Chilean politician during the Civil War in 1891. A bomb which exploded was thrown into the house, then another, which did not go off. The girl, instead of being terrified and fainting or going into hysterics, seized this second bomb and threw it out of a window. Then



### SMART AND SOLDIERLY

The Chilean soldiers are outwardly fit to bear comparison with those of any of the European armies that took a pride in such details before the Great War reduced their value

*Photo, Publishers' Photo Service*





#### THE WOMAN TRAM-CONDUCTOR A PRE-WAR FIGURE IN CHILE

The woman tram-conductor was familiar enough in Europe in the days of the Great War, but she has long been a feature of Chilean street traffic. It is worth recalling that the Chilean woman conductor also owes her job to war-time conditions, as the lack of men workers after the war with

Bolivia and Peru resulted in women taking their posts

*Photo, Brown & Dawson*

she began to struggle with the fire which the first bomb had started, and with the help of servants, who took courage when they saw how cool she was, she got the flames under. Nor was this all she did. It occurred to her that her father would be on his way home and might be attacked by the

miscreants who had bombed his house. She took his revolver and went to meet him, so that he might be able to defend himself.

It is a little surprising that the Church has not lost any of its hold upon the women of Chile, in spite of their comparative freedom. They most of





#### CHILEAN OFFICERS—NOT A PRE-WAR GROUP OF PRUSSIANS

It was only natural that the Chilean army, tutored by German officers, should have been equipped and dressed in Teutonic fashion, but it was disconcerting to the visitor to Chile at first to see the native soldiers as perfect reproductions of the German type. The outcome of the Great War, however, is producing modifications of Chilean military dress



#### SPANISH-AMERICAN PASSION FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

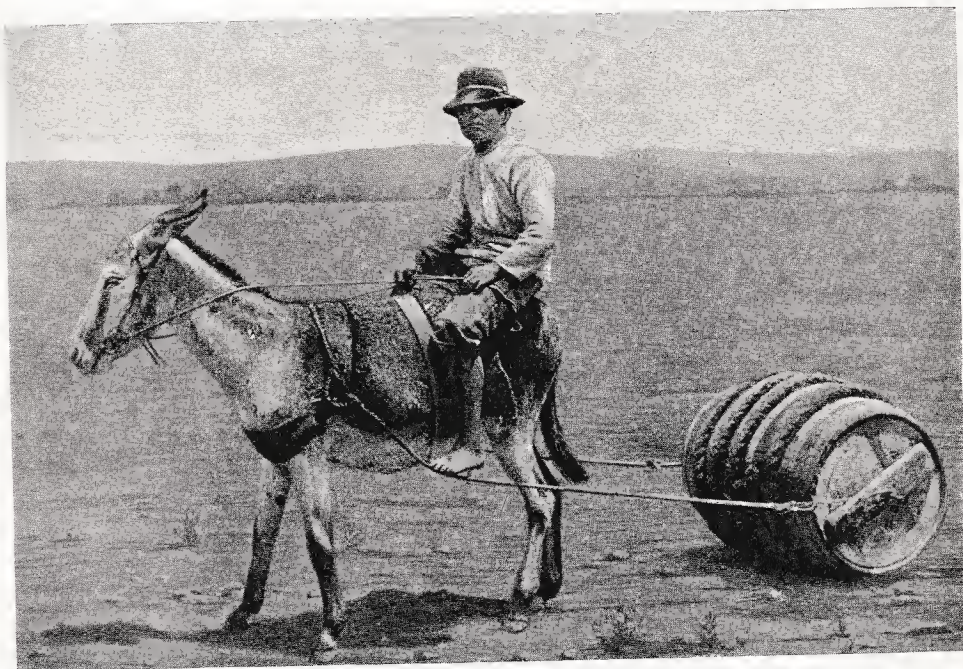
Throughout the whole Spanish world no occasion that may offer an excuse for a speech is ever missed, and every second man has claims to be an orator. Their orations are almost invariably carefully prepared, and are usually read. They are chiefly noteworthy for lack of humour, and in this photograph it is evident that the orator is the person most enjoying the speech





#### CHILEAN CAPATAZ SURVEYING THE SCENE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES

He may be a rough-looking fellow, but he is pretty certain to have qualities of resource and decision before he is made capataz, or overseer of the numerous labourers employed on the estancia, and his will is the determining factor in everything that affects these employees, as in all that really matters what the capataz says "goes"

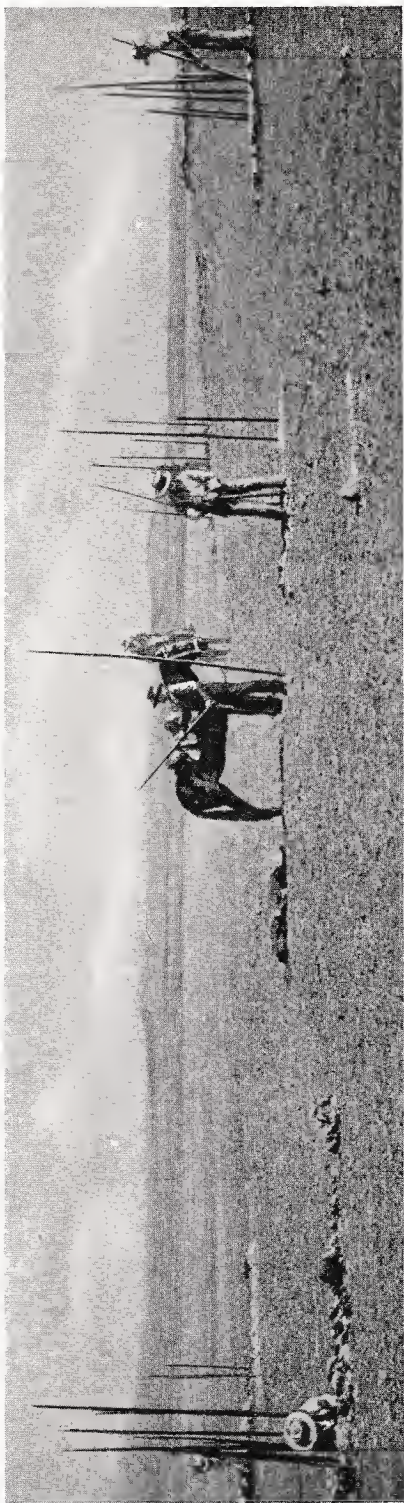


#### INGENIOUS METHOD OF WATER TRANSPORT NEAR ANTOFAGASTA

In the region of the nitrate fields in the provinces of Antofagasta and Tarapaca there are hundreds of miles on which scarcely a green blade grows, and water has to be transported great distances, in pipes and otherwise. Here a barrel of water ingeniously harnessed to a donkey is being transported by means of its own rotundity

*Photo, Publishers' Photo Service*





THE CHILEAN DESERT WHERE NATURE HAS SECRETED ONE OF HER GREATEST CHEMICAL LABORATORIES

As a result of the war of 1879 between Chile, Peru, and Bolivia, the Chilean Government annexed to its territory a large stretch of land in the north. A barren, rainless land, it furnishes, nevertheless, the most profitable branch of Chilean industry, for through its vast deposits of nitrate this desert zone supplies the means of fertility to other lands. This photograph illustrates a nitrate field with several workers boring test-holes

them still obey the injunction to go to mass every day, and in the morning hours, therefore, the streets are filled with figures in long black garments draped over the head and falling in graceful folds to the feet. This is the manto, the Chilean development of the Spanish mantilla, the prescribed costume for the worship of God.

The Church in Chile is still a branch of the Government. One of the Articles of the Constitution lays it down that the Roman Catholic religion is that of the State. The oath which the President of the Republic takes is in religious form. The Church receives a share of taxation, provided for it in the budget every year ; this goes a long way to cover its expenditure, though it has ample wealth beyond this. The religious orders have been left up to now in possession of their large properties. It is this which has induced the Church in Chile to accept the Republic. It knows there is no hope for any other form of government, and that if it did not recognise the constitution as a permanency it would soon be treated as it has been elsewhere.

For the Chilean men would not hesitate to cut the connexion between Church and State if there were any reason to do so. They do not share the women's respect for priestly authority. They are lax in their religious observances, though they encourage their wives and daughters to keep them up. The Church understands, therefore, that it must not be intolerant. It had to agree to other religions being given the right to hold services freely. Its yoke is easy and its burden light in comparison with those which are borne by the people of Spain.

The Chileans of the educated class spring chiefly from old Spanish settlers ; they plume themselves upon their descent from the conquerors of the new world in the sixteenth century. Thus there is a distinctly aristocratic class, which has managed





#### THE SCENE AFTER CHEMICALS HAVE DISCOVERED CHEMICALS

The beds of nitrate lie a few feet below the surface, buried beneath a conglomerate of clay and gravel, cemented with mineral sulphates and common salt. The soil is broken up by blasting a charge placed in a test-hole, the nitrate-producing material being disclosed by the explosion. The caliche, or impure sodium nitrate, usually found in veined white masses, is then extracted

until lately to keep to itself both the land and the machinery of government, as well as the important posts in the administration and the direction of army and fleet. Here again there is a likeness between Chile and the England of an earlier age than this. Aristocratic families may send their sons also into medicine or the law, but even yet they are prejudiced against commerce. Wealthy Chileans are directors of banks or companies, but mercantile business they are often content to leave to foreigners.

While some of the leading families can justly claim uninterrupted descent from the aristocratic Spaniards of the old colonial days, the majority of the Chilean people are really the descendants of the Spanish Conquistadores or early settlers and a native race, the Araucanian, which successfully resisted all attempts at its subjugation by the adventurers from Spain. For decade after decade the struggle lasted; to end only in final peace and the merging of the two races, for we must always remember in respect to the Spanish conquest of South America that the Conquistadores were not companioned by their own women-folk, and the early colonisation was essentially

masculine. Of this merging the typical Chilean of to-day is the outcome.

When it is considered that the majority of the Conquistadores were drawn from that north-western corner of Spain which was the old Spanish Galicia, the inhabitants of which resisted both the ancient Roman conquest and the influences of the Moorish dominion in Spain, it will be seen that the modern Chilean is descended from two unconquered races, and without flattery it may be said that his descent is reflected in his leading characteristics of honesty, independence, and industry.

In some parts, most noticeably in the forestal districts of the south, are still to be found remnants of the Araucanian race without tincture of Spanish blood, and at most a very slight admixture. In appearance the Araucanians are like the Red Man of the United States. Many of the faces of their caciques or chiefs are noble and sympathetic, though they are disappointing when one tries to draw out corresponding characteristics or sentiments. Caupolicán is the national hero of the Araucanians, and a worthy part he played in the struggle with the Spaniards. His statue is a familiar one in Chile, for the Chileans honour his memory. In figure the





## OPERATIVES WORKING NITRATE CRUSHERS

The caliche, or crude nitrate of soda, is taken from the nitrate field to the "oficina," or works, where, in due course, it is crushed, boiled, filtered, and crystallized into the pure nitrate of soda, known as Chile saltpetre

Araucanians are square and thick-set. They are strong and enduring, but they sap their strength by intoxicants, which they drink, as the Russian peasants did before vodka was abolished, for the pleasure of insensibility. Returning with barrels of brandy which they have received in exchange for produce or the skins of animals, they do not always wait even to get into their houses. As soon as they reach their village they throw themselves from their horses, take a long drink, and in a few minutes fall down dead drunk, leaving the horses, more intelligent creatures than they are, to find their own way home.

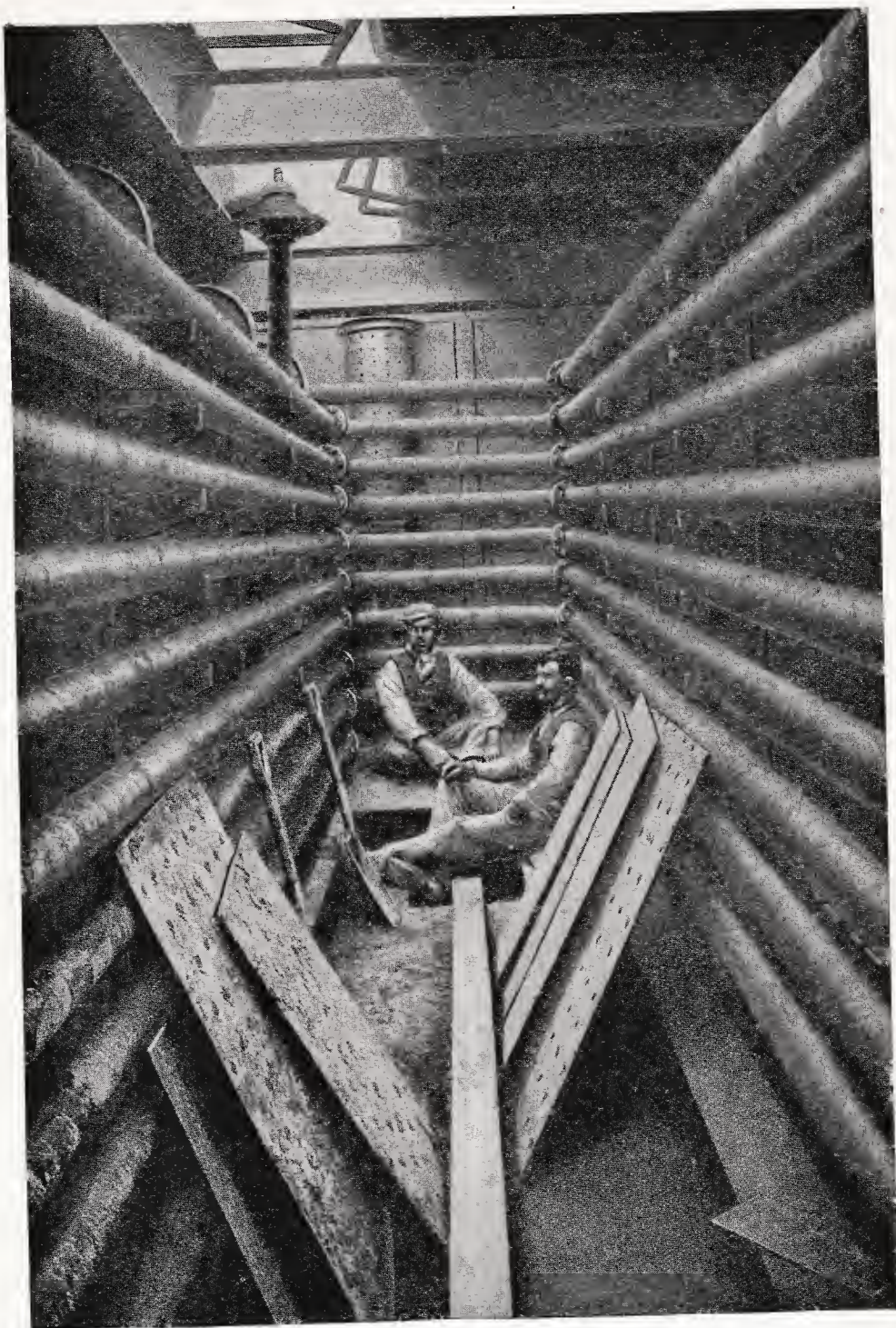
In feature the Indians vary a great deal. Many are flat-nosed and belong to the Eskimo type. Their behaviour is solemn and exceedingly polite. They smile seldom, and they never shed tears if they can help it, for that is considered a sign of shameful weakness. They live in poor circumstances. Their habitations are made of wood, mud, or reeds, conical in shape, with straw roofs that slope down almost to the ground. In the roof is a hole to let the smoke of the fire lighted on the mud floor escape. They sleep on ox-hides. Their huts contain very little in the way of furniture, and are almost dark inside, for they do not make windows.

Drink is almost their only luxury. They prefer horsemeat to any other, and feed their horses, with the view of eating them, upon a diet that consists of potatoes, haricot beans, and maize. They are fond of drinking sheep's blood prepared with salt, pepper, onion and parsley, a disgusting

concoction. The chiefs have several wives, as many as they can afford to keep. The women indeed do a large part of the work, so they largely keep themselves. They love to deck themselves in red shawls; red is a favourite colour also for the ponchos, or cloaks of the men. Down the backs of the women hang two plaits of black, shiny, coarse hair. Of other attractions or adornments they seldom have any.

Although the climate is healthy the Indians are disappearing, and the death rate, even of the Chileans themselves, is high. They have never had the yellow fever scourge, but cholera has attacked

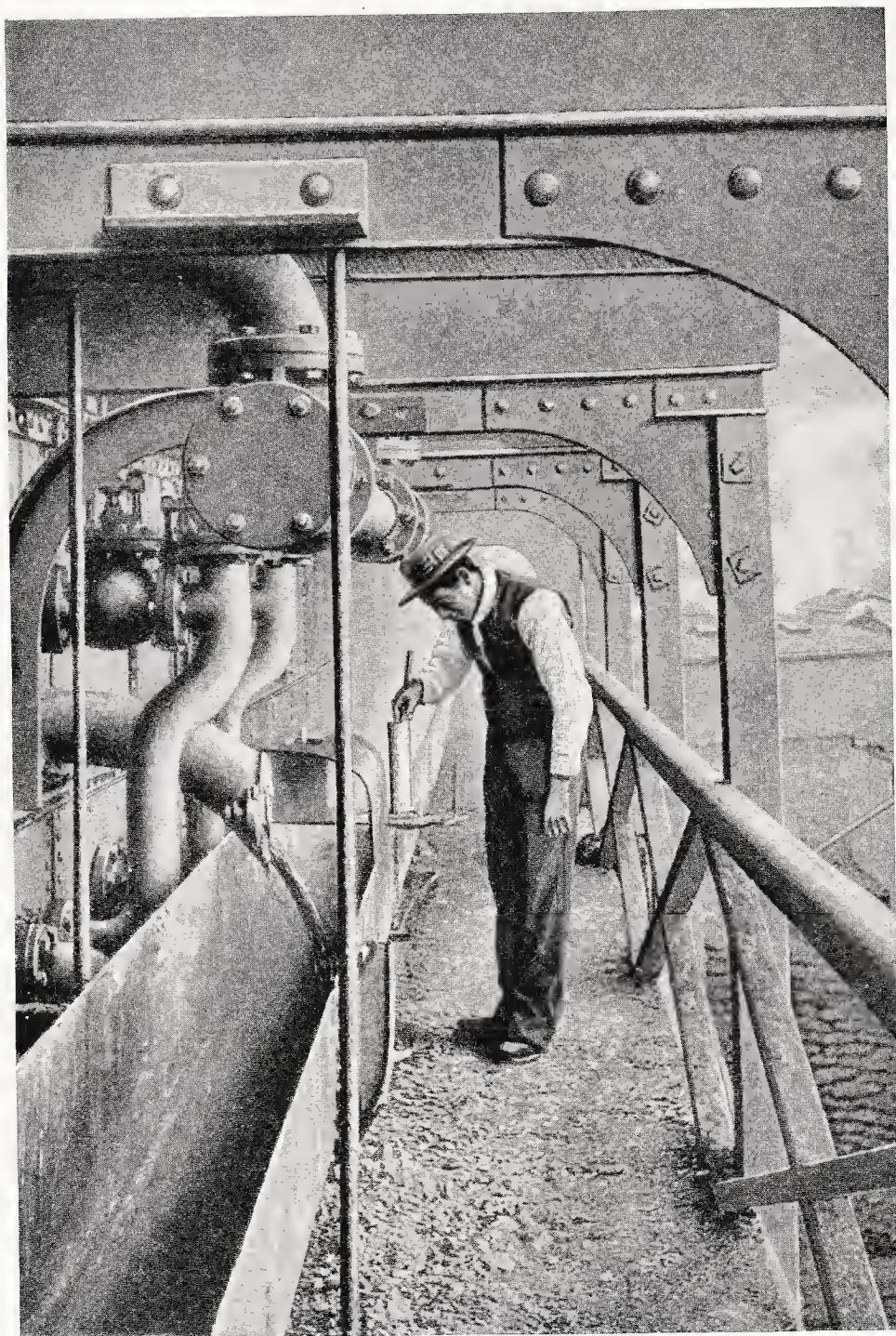




#### THE TANK-ROOM WHERE THE NITRATE IS BOILED

From the crushing-plant the caliche passes into the boiling-tanks, whence the saturated solution is poured into pans and left to recrystallize. From caliche the world's supply of sodium nitrate is obtained; the deposits of this substance only occur in north Chile, notably in Tarapaca Province. Caliche is largely used in the manufacture of saltpetre, nitric acid manufactures, and as a manure

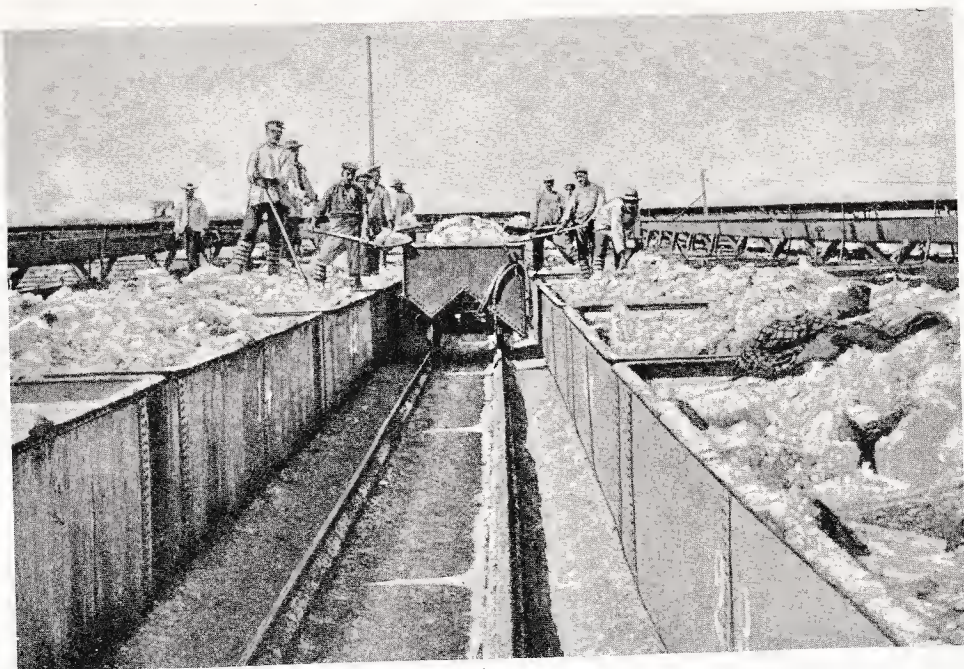




#### RUNNING OFF THE SATURATED SOLUTION OF NITRATE OF SODA

The caliche is drawn from the boiling-tanks, and the sodium nitrate allowed to crystallize out. Good caliche contains 40-45 per cent. of sodium nitrate, over 2,000,000 tons of which are exported annually. During the Great War Chilean nitrate provided valuable help to the Allies, and the increased production, due to the need of nitrate for military purposes, brought Chile unprecedented prosperity





#### EMPTYING THE CRYSTALLIZING PANS INTO TRUCKS

When recrystallized the sodium nitrate is stacked in trucks for exportation. A considerable population is employed in the nitrate industry, and busy ports fringe the coast of this desolate region, where every ounce of food must be imported by sea or rail. Work is continued day and night in the factories, which are surrounded by small towns, chiefly composed of rickety sheds for the workers.



#### NITRATE WORKS OF THE BROWN CHILEAN DESERT

The origin of these nitrate beds is still unknown; one theory has it that they were formed by seaweed in a submersion of the land, another that they are the remains of marine animals and birds. Iron tanks, tall chimneys, steam pumps, a chemical laboratory, and an iodine extracting house, are principal features of the vast premises belonging to the great Chilean nitrate industry.



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them from time to time, though not for some years, while smallpox and other epidemics have taken heavy toll of the population, especially of the young children. It is impossible to walk through any town or village without encountering men and women horribly disfigured by smallpox, and yet vaccination is not compulsory, but is actually a political question. In Santiago, I remember a very severe epidemic of smallpox, during which victims of the disease were conveyed to the pest house in the common tramcars! And the smallpox hospital was next door to a large bacon-curing establishment!

### Ignorance and Infant Mortality

Mention of the child victims of this scourge of ignorance reminds me that among the masses there is a superstition that "nine little angels secure certain entry into Paradise for their mother"; that is to say, if a mother loses nine of her babes, her salvation is sure. Whether that has any effect in making parents careless of their children's health is doubtful: the high infant death rate would suggest it, yet as parents they are affectionate and even over-indulgent.

Such a superstition shows, at any rate, the low intelligence of the masses. Something like forty per cent. of them are still unable to read and write. Education is free, but it is not compulsory. President Balmaceda spent two millions sterling on schools during the years in which he carried on his expansion policy, but that was a spasmodic effort. It has been ascribed to the strong influence of the Church that popular education has not been more insisted upon since his time.

### Boundless Mineral Wealth

Whether or not that be true, one hopeful sign is the growing popularity of the Boy Scout movement—"los Boee Escoots," as they pronounce it there. Much work is needed in the drawing out and training of intelligence among the young. The politicians have not concerned themselves very industriously with this.

Although the civil war provoked by Balmaceda arose in some measure from the foreign exploitation of the mineral wealth of the country, so boundless is that wealth, so rich are its natural resources, that, despite the exploitation of the nitrate deposits and the copper ore, it may be said to have been no more than scratched. Of £38,000,000 worth of cargoes and freight-car loads as much as £24,000,000 worth is represented by nitrates. This deposit is found in the northern part of Chile, where rain scarcely ever falls. In this region the dryness has preserved the decomposed vegetable matter, mixed with the dust of fish and animals, over a vast territory, and since this, converted by chemical action into nitrate of soda, forms the most valuable fertiliser known, the working and shipment of it are highly profitable. Much of this profit comes to Britain, for the companies were mostly floated in London, and British capital developed the industry.

### Colonel North and Nitrates

About 1870 a Yorkshire boilermaker, a rough, canny fellow, went to the Chilean port of Iquique, which was carrying out a scheme to get water supplied to it by tank steamers; it was in the dry area, and had no regular water supply of its own. The name of the boilermaker was North, and he soon began to show that he did not mean to stick to boilermaking. He first managed to buy up a tank steamer, and from this beginning he went into many enterprises along the coast. He was clever and adventurous. The worth of the nitrate fields was not then understood. He guessed that here lay a source of wealth, not difficult to get at, and with possibilities unbounded. He did some exploration himself and secured the right to work large parts of the strip of country, four hundred miles long, where nothing grew in the white dusty soil, which concealed very near the surface immense quantities of a substance needed by the world more and more every year to assist the growth of crops and feed its increasing population. "Colonel" North, as he was called





**SONS OF CHILE WHO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HER INDUSTRIES**  
 The Araucanians have largely interbred with the Spaniards, forming the hybrid class known as "huasos," who, like the Argentine gaucho, are born horsemen and supply the labour of the farms. The lowest class are the "rotos," who are the "hands" of industry. They are a hardy set of men, working when needs must, but always ready to take a holiday or to dance the national Cueca



**THE RISING GENERATION IN A MINING CENTRE OF THE NORTH**  
 One would not go to a mining town in the county of Durham to see the best specimens of English boyhood. It would be equally unfair to regard this mixed group at the great copper mining settlement of Chuquicamata as typically Chilean. Spanish and Indian characteristics are clearly defined, and also a touch of the tarbrush, and there are signs of North American influence in their dress





BY WINDING WATERS IN A PEACEFUL VALLEY OF CENTRAL CHILE

The multitudinous streams that rise in the Andes and hurry westward to the Pacific supply much of the beauty of the central and southern regions of Chile. In a journey south to Valdivia, the railway continually crosses pleasant little valleys like this. The abundance of shady trees and the far-spreading fields, which never attain to the immense proportions of the Argentine estancias, endow the Chilean scene with a somewhat English beauty and charm

*Photo, Hefner, Santiago*





BRINGING THE HARVEST HOME: FARMING SCENE IN THE CENTRAL ZONE OF CHILE

Everywhere in the agricultural district there is picturesqueness, even if it is at times mingled with much that is insanitary and far from savoury. The use of the bullock as a beast of burden is still very common, and no scene could be more typical of country life in the central zone of Chile during the harvesting season than this animated photograph of the bullock team hauling laboriously the well-filled wagon

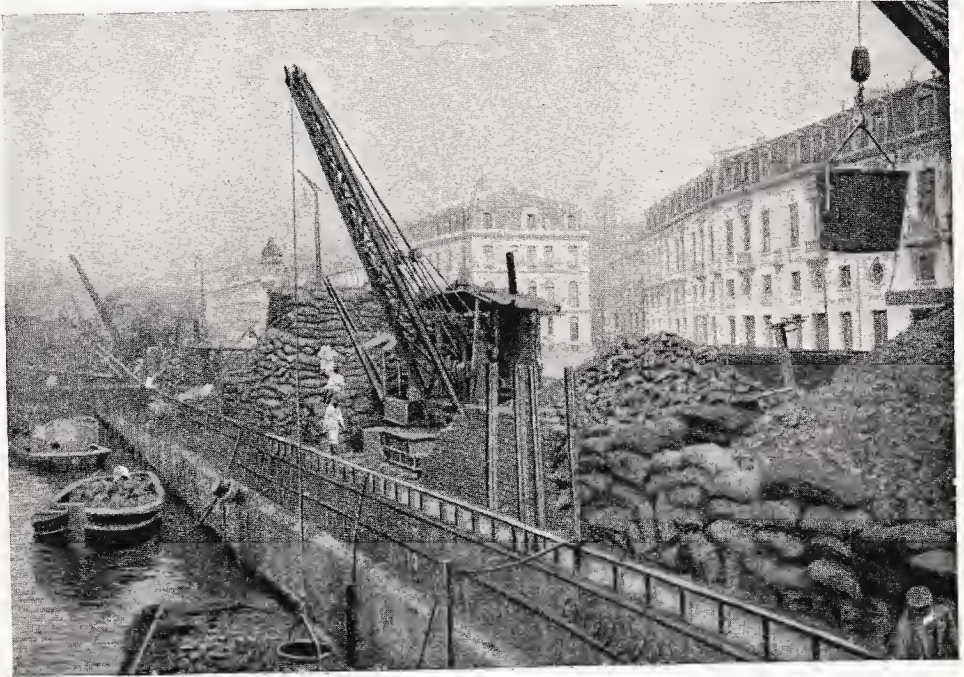
*Photo, Heffer, Santiago*





#### A MUSTER OF CHILE'S FOUR-LEGGED MILK-CARRIERS

Mules and donkeys are widely employed in Chile as beasts of burden, but the favourite pack animal of the Chilean is undoubtedly the more intelligent horse, and, as here shown, provision horses assist the milkmen in their daily rounds



#### GLIMPSE OF THE CROWDED DOCKS AT VALPARAÍSO

The shipping section of Valparaíso is wholly devoted to commerce, and in both directions offers not a yard of relief until one has almost passed outside of the town. Everywhere are stores and merchandise, the clatter of steam cranes, the loading of wagons, and a fine sense of bustle which make this town one of the liveliest centres of business in the South American continent





### UPS AND DOWNS OF VALPARAÍSO STREETS

Most of the population of the port live up the hills which rise steeply from the shore, for the low-lying part along the water's edge is the earthquake strip. A large number of hydraulic and electric elevators serve the pedestrians in their daily ups and downs, while numerous forbidding flights of stairs are provided for those who are willing to use them

*Photo, Allan, Valparaíso*





#### HOW THE BEER REACHES THE SUPPER TABLES OF VALPARAÍSO

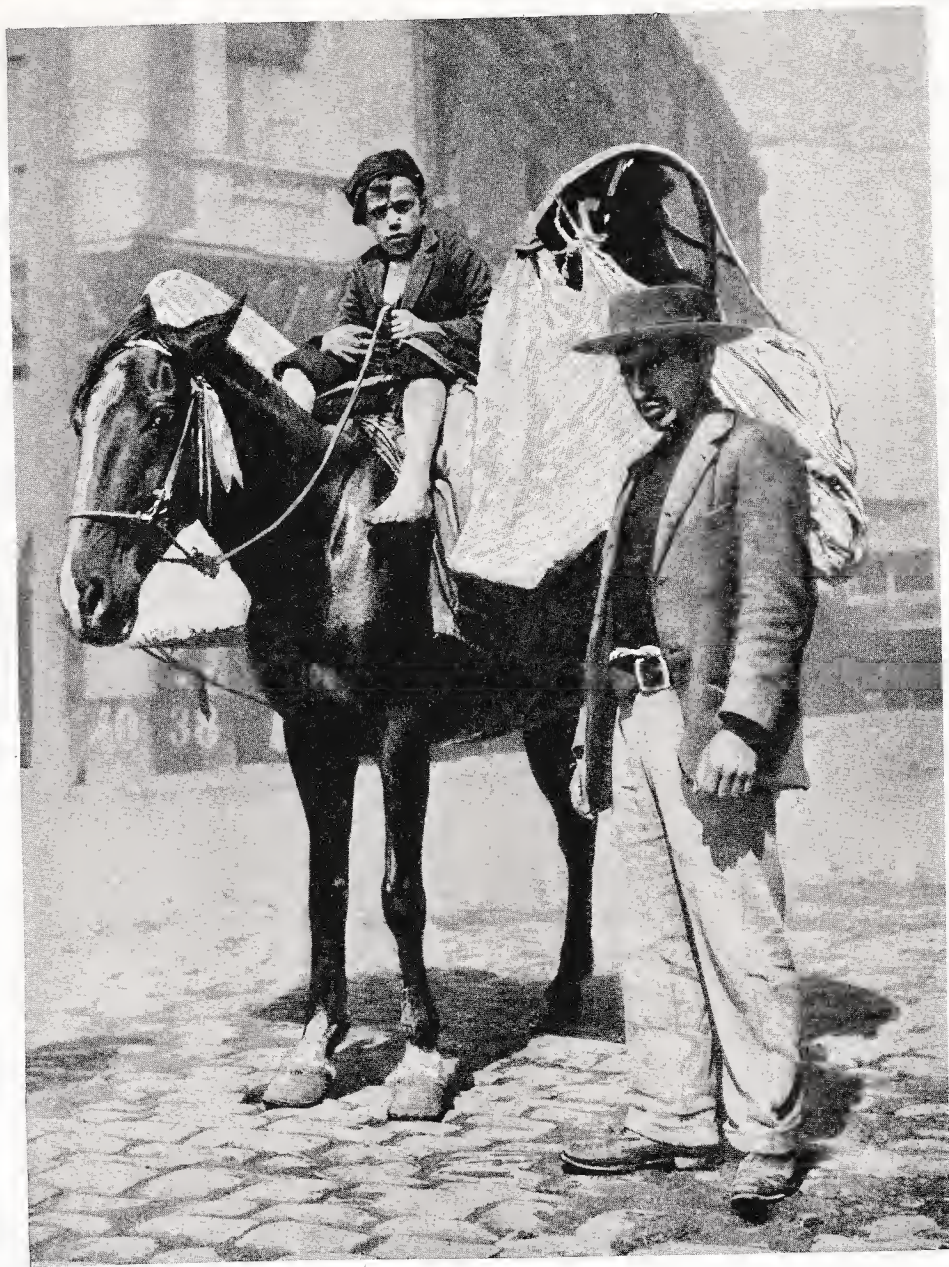
Owing to the hilly character of the town, practically all the traffic in the residential quarters upon the hills is borne on horse or mule back, as wheeled vehicles are quite impossible in most of the steep and stony streets. Household commodities form no exception to this rule, as we here see a supply of beer on its way to a householder

*Photo, Allan, Valparaíso*

when he came to England to finance his companies, became a figure known to all. He was a man of commonplace appearance and uncultivated mind, but he was shrewd and generous, and he spent his huge fortune with open hands.

He made a tour through Chile at the height of his prosperity, impressing some and amusing others by his "magnificence." He died, still as rich as ever and not less ostentatious, in 1896. The continuance of the nitrate





#### A VALPARAÍSO BAKER ABOUT TO START UPON HIS ROUNDS

We have seen the beer being taken on horseback up the steep hills of Chile's great Pacific port, and here is how the bread is conveyed. Every conceivable article of domestic use may be seen carried on horseback up the Valparaíso hills, a grand piano on the back of a horse being by no means an extraordinary sight!

*Photo, Allan, Valparaíso*

industry, which is the largest of the industries of Chile, depends upon the continued absence of rain in the districts where the deposits exist. Showers at infrequent intervals do not severely injure it, for the nitrates are

covered by a crust several feet thick. Only those beds suffer which are being actually worked. But a regular rainfall would gradually soak away the subsoil. This, however, is not regarded as a possibility at present, as years pass in





#### ENJOYING THE OPEN-AIR DELIGHTS OF AN IDEAL CLIMATE

Outdoor life offers one of the many charms of Chile, as it is possible to live entirely out of doors for months on end. The group here photographed is representative of the population of one of the smaller country towns and the types are Chilean with a possible admixture of Italian blood

*Photo, Rivas Freire*

some parts of the nitrate region without a drop of rain falling, and even in the coastal towns of Iquique and Antofagasta a gentle drizzle that might last a few minutes is the rarest occurrence. There is still, in the opinion of expert geologists, quite a hundred years' supply available at the rate of working which obtains to-day, and as the companies have almost a monopoly of this useful fertiliser, it is hardly likely that the demand will fall off before these fields are exhausted. By that time others may have been found.

The North companies worked the industry well. They installed machinery and made railways to carry their product to the coast, distant from the fields about a hundred miles at some points, at others less than a hundred. Most of the Chilean railways are government property. They do not show a profit when their receipts are looked at in

comparison with the amount they cost to build and to maintain. But the fares are cheap, the trains are comfortable, with good sleeping and dining cars, and they give employment to a very large number of presumably deserving persons who are not required to work too hard.

When there are more railways the mineral wealth of the country will be extracted more assiduously. Copper is the chief mining industry, but many more minerals are known to exist in paying quantities. It was for gold and silver that the Spanish conquerors stayed in the country, and the amount they took out, although it was large for those days, can have been only a very small proportion of what they left in. This still remains to be worked some day, though it will never be worked by the same cruel means which were employed by the Spaniards, careless of the Indians'



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sufferings and only anxious to supply the need of their country for precious metals. Coal is a prosperous Chilean industry, and the mining settlement at Lota is one of the sights of the country, with its glass works, smelting furnaces, brick and tile fields, and its proprietor's gorgeous, if gimcrack, palace, set romantically in the midst of one of the most beautiful pleasure estates in the Western hemisphere.

Mention has been made of the railways and their presumably deserving employees. This is "writ sarcastic," for the Chilean national railways resemble those of Tsarist Russia in being politically exploited and wastefully managed. All sorts of jobs are within the reach of those with the necessary "pull," and the curse of the country is the natives' desire for an easy billet in this or any other government



THREE BELLES OF SANTIAGO

department to which he can most easily find admission. The very facility with which the nitrate fields can be made to yield revenue to the government has also had a bad influence, and has tended to national slackness, whereas less accessible riches would have produced greater virility of character, more self-reliance and constructive industry.

There are immense quantities of good coal awaiting development south of Lota, but because vision, energy, and capital are essential to the creation of a great new national industry, nothing is being done; only the poor, soft coal of Lota is mined, and the easy-to-work salitreras, or nitrate fields, appeal to the natives.



## CHILE & THE CHILEANS



CHILEAN "ARRIEROS"

The country carriers, or arrieros, differ much in type and methods from the British, as the almost roadless land eliminates the cart and involves pack animals. The arriero is well shod and clad, and although rough-looking is usually a courteous fellow

*Photo, Mattenshon & Grimm*

Cultivation is the keynote of the Chilean landed proprietors, both small and great. Fruit, flowers, vegetables, vines—from which come the best wines of South America—wheat and maize, are represented everywhere in the fertile central zone, where cattle also graze on sweet, rich pasturage, and where innumerable hives proclaim the universality of bee-culture. But the great charm of rural Chile and of its people springs from a pervading savour of bygone, picturesque, romantic days. In their homes are ornaments and isolated bits of furniture of the eighteenth century; the high comb and mantilla are still in evidence, though less so than the long black

church-going manto which every woman must wear; while the men still ride on high-pommelled, silver-bedizened saddles, with brightly-coloured ponchos, mostly red or yellow, or red and yellow, many of which are still hand-woven from the silky hair of the guanaco.

The Chilean is good and whole-hearted at both work and play, while on the sea-coast he is an intrepid and skilful navigator. Signs of hardship are cheerfully absent from this smiling land. It will be judged from the foregoing that estancia life in Chile is a very happy one. The great house date may date from colonial times and gain much of its outward beauty therefrom, but its accommodation adapts modern European comfort to the climate, and in many instances arrives at a state of luxury. The innumerable water-courses running down from the Andes furnish ample waterpower everywhere for all electrical

or other purposes, as well as for adequate irrigation of the lands and gardens.

As has been said, hospitality is a characteristic of the Chilean generally, and the great estanciero is hospitality personified, with the means immediately at his disposal for the full exercise of that virtue. What has he not within reach of his hand? Meat of the best quality bred by himself; fruit—apples, pears, peaches, melons, all of the best European kinds, and all of extraordinarily fine flavour, notwithstanding their equally extraordinary dimensions, and many others; vegetables (including the indigenous potato) of all kinds, notably peas and beans, and flowers in luxuriant abundance and of all varieties,



## CHILE & THE CHILEANS

among which are likely to be exquisite roses; honey and wine, the latter of peculiar and fine qualities as yet unknown in Europe, although their export may one day be possible commercially. All these are grown on the estate, the different fields, meadows, and gardens of which are divided from one another by quaint mud-built, tile-topped walls, or hedges of bramble.

Roughly speaking, but very roughly, the Chilean estancia differs from that of Argentina by its greater air of general cultivation, and by the walls and hedges which subdivide it in place of the ubiquitous and dreary barbed wire fencing of the pampa.

The best agricultural districts are in the centre. The south is largely forest. Here the climate is wet; a great deal of

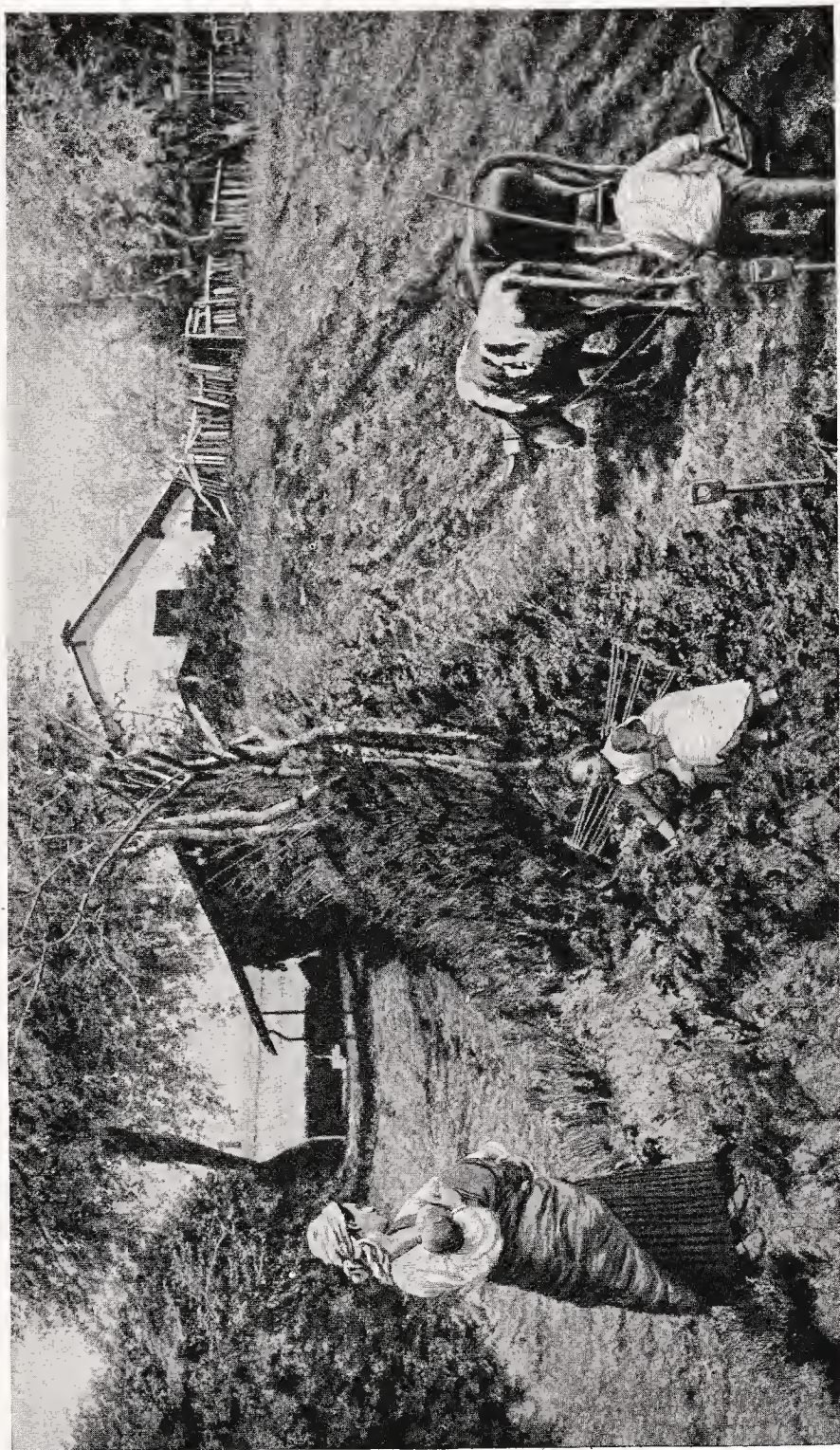


### HOW THE MEAT SUPPLY IS TAKEN ABOARD AT PACIFIC PORTS

The voyager up the Pacific coast too often has the opportunity of seeing to-morrow's beef-steaks arriving in this fashion on board ship, the wretched cattle destined for the table being mercilessly slung aboard by the horns. Of course, it is necessary in these latitudes to cook the meat soon after it has been killed

*Photo, Allan, Valparaiso*





#### SPRING-TIME AMONG THE COLONISTS IN A COUNTRY DISTRICT OF OLD ARAUCANIA

In the Chilean mines, factories, and other industries the direction is mostly European. And though some jealousy of the intrusion of so many foreigners exists Chile encourages immigration, and has even offered small farms to attract settlers to the less-developed southern regions. This farmer obviously prefers a team of bullocks to horses, despite the fact that the latter are so plentiful that a good one may be purchased for a modest sum





#### THE WAYSIDE CALVARY AND A DOUBTFUL SENSE OF REVERENCE

The symbols of the Roman Catholic Church are very familiar everywhere in Chile, and wayside calvaries are common, though this at Puerto Montt is rather unusual in its character. It is doubtful whether familiarity with such shrines and symbols breeds nothing but reverence. This photograph at least would seem to put that question rather pointedly

*Photo, Allan, Valparaiso*

rain falls in summer, and of snow in winter. Round about Valdivia it will rain without ceasing for weeks on end, and for months at a time rain will fall some time every day. Thus between the arid north and the soaking south there is all the difference possible, and in between there are other varieties of climate. The best is the central region. Here in summer the skies are blue, the sunshine is tempered by the light, exhilarating quality of the air, like that of Greece. No conditions could be more delightful.

It is hot enough at midday to justify the siesta, the midday rest, which is usual in Chile among all classes. The climate also makes it advisable to eat light food. The labouring people and the workers with their hands live largely

on beans. A favourite soup is called cazuela, not unlike the Spanish puchero ; it has a piece of meat cooked in with its vegetables, and the meat can be eaten as a second course. Indian corn is served in very appetising fashion—humitas de choclo is a delicious dish—and quesillos, or small cheescs, make their appearance at most meals, and are always welcome. In the streets ice-cream sellers and vendors of mote, or sweetened popcorn, do a flourishing trade ; and there are plenty of daring buyers, too, for those who sell pastry fiercely flavoured with onions and garlic. At the railway stations there are usually women selling fruit and sweets, and a white bread made with milk and eggs, called pan de huevos. The Chilean working class is pronounced



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by those who have employed labour in the country to be equal to any in the world, although their diet is so largely vegetarian. They are intelligent as well as industrious. They learn quickly, and are skilful craftsmen. The *roto* (literally "broken") is the labourer, and Chilean *rotos* are distinct from the manual labourer east of the Andes in possessing a certain national character of sturdy self-reliance. They are not the mixed polyglot mob of Buenos Aires and the large Argentine centres, but a class that is racy of the soil. They are physically fitter and less inclined to look with misgiving at every new job of work proposed to them. The wages of both artisan and labourer have remained low, but there is a tendency towards a rise.

### Economic Rocks Ahead

It cannot be supposed that the worker has not been affected by the knowledge that all over the civilized globe Labour is demanding better conditions of life. Whether the workers of Chile will seize political power from the hands of the few rich families that have governed the country, and still have the paramount influence, depends a good deal on the course which the oligarchy follows. If they are wise and look ahead, they may avoid trouble. But the fate of President Balmaceda showed that foresight was not a gift possessed by the governing class in large measure. It is not only that they want to keep their power.

### Fatal Habit of Procrastination

There is among them the inclination, noticeable in all peoples of Spanish origin, to put off doing anything unpleasant or difficult. This is less marked, perhaps, among the Chileans than in some other countries of South America; but the fact that when they want an appointment to be kept punctually they make use of the expression "*hora inglesa*" (English time), proves that in Chile, as in neighbouring countries, the Spanish habit, summed up in the one word *mañana* (to-morrow), is strong.

In commerce and industry Chile comes next to Argentina and Brazil, but both of these are more in foreign than in

native hands. The Chilean young men of easy circumstances and "good" family prefer entering the army or navy, or becoming politicians, to going in for business. Many of the families reckoned among the best bear British names; for example: MacClure, Mackenna, Simpson, Porter, Edwards, Rogers, Walker, though Chilean features predominate even in the second generation of all families of British origin.

The friendly relations between the State and the Church are illustrated in Chile by the prevalence of names which had religious origin. Elsewhere most of these have been changed; streets which were formerly dedicated to saints or to the Holy Spirit have been named after the heroes of revolution or political reform. It will be noticed that in Chile this is not the case, the chief towns being Santiago, the city of Saint James; Valparaíso, which was originally Val de Paraíso, the Vale of Paradise; Concepción, called after the Virgin Birth of the Saviour, and so on.

### Splendour of the Capital

Santiago, the capital city, occupies a magnificent situation in the great longitudinal valley with the majestic range of the snow-covered Andes enclosing the view eastward, and the lower Cordillera de la Costa more distant to the west. It is doubtful if any other city in the world can boast a more beautiful scene than that presented at sunset from almost any part of the famous Alameda or Avenida de las Delicias, the great tree-lined highway, three miles long, which bisects the city from the south-east to the north-west. Eastward the mighty Andine heights, with their snowy summits flushed into most delicate pink, tower above the dark purple shadows of the coastal range which are projected magically on to the Andes as the sun dips towards the Pacific. It may be that many of the splendid-looking mansions along the Alameda are largely constructed of cement, but they give to this splendid thoroughfare, with its grateful shade of trees and splashing fountains and its many monuments, an air of dignity and



# CHILEAN CHARACTERS

## *At Work & at Play*



*Estanciero of Chile in his decorative dress. The Chilean poncho is usually shorter than the Argentine form, but the spurs are larger*

Photo, Heffer. Santiago





*Chile is a land of beautiful horses. These, on a farm in the Andine foothills, are being gathered to have their manes and tails clipped*



*A group of estancia employees, splendidly mounted and sitting their horses with the easy assurance that comes from "second nature"*





*Street scene in Santiago. The man is buying mote, a sort of popcorn drenched with syrup and much in request by the working-classes*



*Dancing the national Cueca. It is performed to an accompaniment of harp and voice, with much hand-clapping and handkerchief play*





*This Araucanian cacique, with a veneer of civilization, vies with any Chilean in the matter of stirrups and spurs and his mount*





*That the Chilean does not drink by halves is shown by this rider's glass. His companion has folded back his poncho to set his arms free*





*No more typically Chilean landscape could be found than this scene near Valparaiso, where the hillsides are covered with fantastic cactus growths, or with the Chile pine, known as the monkey-puzzle tree*

Photo, American Field Museum, Chicago





*Idyllic peacefulness reigns in the neighbourhood of Quillota, where the best orchard lands of Chile are, and whence comes much of the alluring fruit displayed in the markets of Santiago and Valparaíso*





*The topeadura is a sport of Chilean cattle-raisers. It is a feature of all fairs, and provision for its practice, as shown here, exists in many country towns. On the opposite page is a further note about it*



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established peace which is in marked contrast with the impression one receives in most South American cities. On the north side of the Alameda stands the famous Cerro de Santa Lucia, an isolated rocky crag on which Pedro de Valdivia, the Conquistador who founded the city in the days of Pizarro and

first engaged the Indians here. In the very heart of the city there is a fine sense of activity. All is bustle and movement round about the Plaza de Armas and Calles Huerfanos and Ahuinada, but half a mile from the centre the streets are as sleepy as those of a French provincial town, although



### "TOPEADURAS": AS THE OLD COCK CROWS THE YOUNG ONE LEARNS

This is true in every clime, of every people. Thus the young Chileans who have seen their fathers at the "topeaduras," as in the view opposite, imitate them with their humbler mounts. There are two opposing sides, and the animals, placing their necks upon the bar, are made to press sideways against each other until one side gives way. It is the tug-o'-war reversed, and a real jolly sport!

*Photo, Heffer, Santiago*

fought with the Araucanians here, first established himself. This historic hill is now entirely a pleasure ground, and from a look-out at its top the view across the city is a magnificent commentary on the material progress of Spanish America in the centuries that have passed since Pizarro's captain

the never distant clatter of the electric tramways is always to be heard. There are many fine buildings, such as the General Post Office, the Town Hall, the Congress and the Treasury, or Palacio de la Moneda, in which the president of the republic has his official residence. Everywhere there are



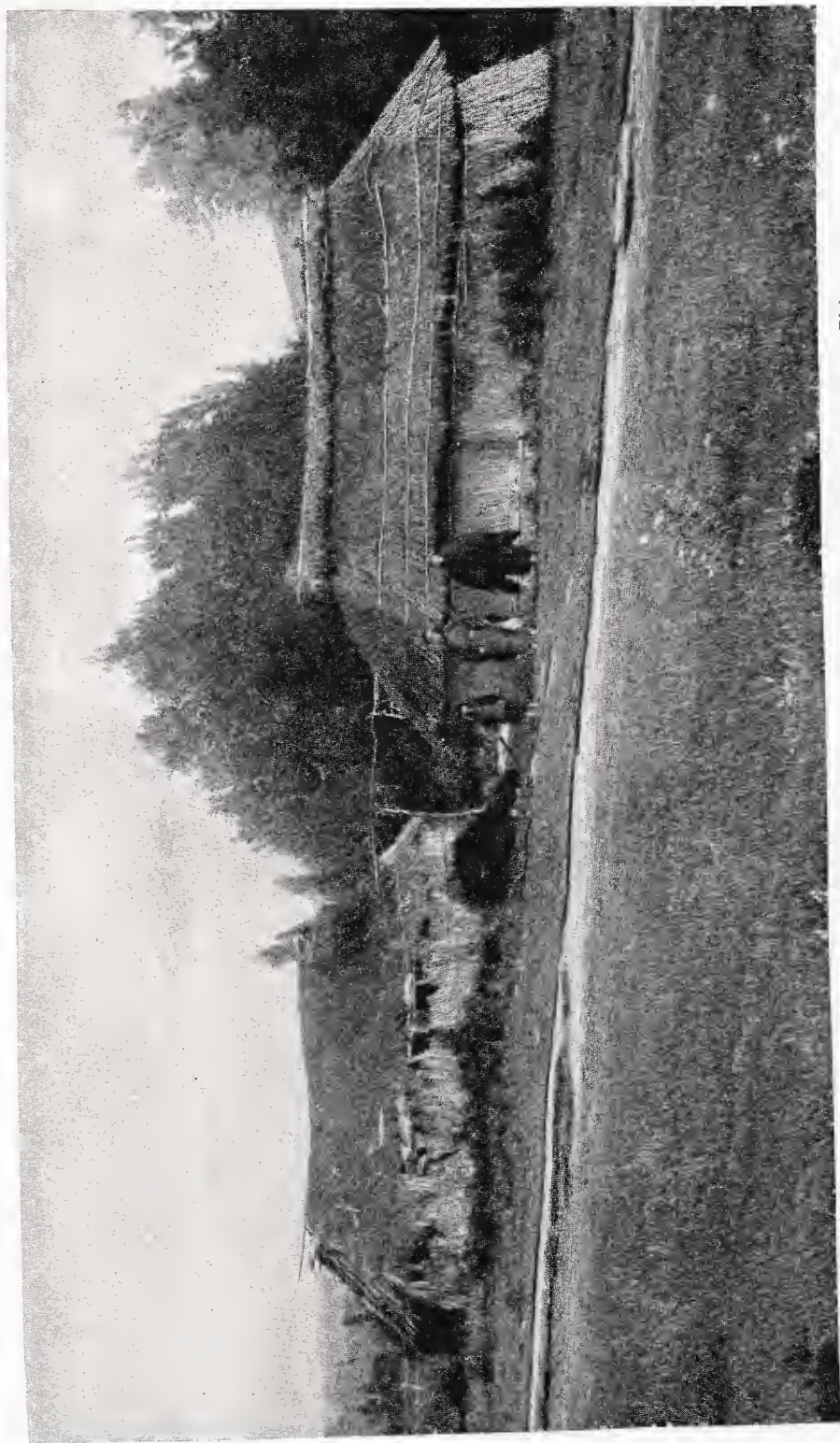


# CHILEAN RANCHERO'S AL FRESCO MEAL AT THE DOOR OF HIS CLAY-BUILT HOME

All the small domestic and farm buildings throughout Chile are constructed of sun-baked clay, applied moist to crudely-built frames of timber. When finished these houses often look quite spick and span if well whitewashed, but the first rains leave their mark upon them, and they are soon shabby and tattered. The average ranchero takes little pride in his home, and one seldom sees these adobe structures in anything but a semi-ruinous condition

Photo. Allan, Valparaíso





#### THE CABIN HOMES IN WHICH THE NATIVE INDIANS OF CHILE DWELL

It is hardly correct to describe the chozas or cabins of Araucanians as dwelling-places, yet they are not so far behind the habitations in many parts of western Ireland. Constructed chiefly of crudely-cut timber covered with straw in a rude sort of thatch, they afford shelter from the wind and rain of the winter-time, and give the Indians a settled habit of life, weaving being a common pursuit among them

*Photo, Hefter, Santiago*





#### READY FOR A RODEO IN A SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL CENTRE OF CHILE

The rodeo is the real pastime of the cattle-men of Chile. It is usually performed in a circus-like erection with wicker shields surrounding the ring. A rider guides his horse among the cattle and selects a particular animal, which he detaches from the rest. He has to "bump" it by running the shoulder of his horse against that of the bull, making the latter bump against the wicker shields, or the timber uprights, as here, without hurt to his mount

*Photo, Allan, Valparaiso*



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churches, eloquent of the extraordinary hold which the Church has upon the community, and by a special law no café or restaurant, where drink is sold, is permitted within a certain distance of a church. As a plan of the city shows the churches sprinkled about as though a pepper-caster had been shaken on it, it may be judged that Santiago is not overcrowded with drinking places. The life of the city, indeed, is on the whole just a little humdrum, and but for the evening performances of the excellent military bands, either in the Plaza de Armas or Plaza de la Moneda, there is little amusement other than a few cinemas, where again the music is the main attraction. There are numerous public parks and paseos, such as the Parque Forestal, and on the outskirts of the city there are many pleasant rural resorts.

### The Naples of the Pacific

Valparaíso, which lies sixty-eight miles to the north-west of the capital, is in many ways more picturesque and interesting than Santiago. The city proper is built along a narrow sandy strip of shore, and its residential streets and suburbs rise steeply up the volcanic hills behind, where no wheeled traffic is possible, horses and mules having to carry everything on their backs, even to grand pianos, and numerous funiculars and hydraulic lifts facilitate the ascent of the residents. It was the sandy strip that suffered most severely during the terrible earthquake of 1906. All traces of this have now disappeared, and hundreds of splendid new buildings have taken the place of those that went down in the twinkling of an eye. Valparaíso lighted at night presents one of the most charming sights in the world, very reminiscent of Naples and its splendid bay as seen from shipboard. Being in no wise concerned with the government of the country, Valparaíso has no dignity to maintain, and is engaged entirely in business, but its social life is probably more interesting than that of the capital, the result in some degree of the large foreign element resident in the port.

Concepción is a modern town, pleasant to live in. It is the supply centre for a prosperous population of farmers, and it receives from them for distribution their wheat, beans, and cattle. Farther south Valdivia taps the district that has been colonised by German settlers, and with its port, Corral, flourishes on the trade which they have created. It was burned down, and then rebuilt as a specimen of town-planning.

### Forests and Rainfall

German settlers form a large portion of the population, and German notions of house building confront one at every turn. There are hundreds of pretty villas, made of wood and iron, which were, no doubt, imported from the Fatherland and fitted up in this far "colony," for a German alcalde, or mayor of the town, had the temerity to cable to the Kaiser on his day of jubilee, as I was informed on one of my visits to Valdivia, that he had a "loyal colony" of Kaiser-true Germans out there! One may be permitted to wonder if they swagger about their Kaiser so blatantly to-day.

There are vast forests in this region, and forestry is one of the chief industries, though wheat and fruit have gained upon it since a good deal of the land was cleared. Fears are expressed sometimes that the Chileans are cutting down their trees with too little regard for the possible consequences to their climate. If the amount of rain that now falls in the central parts were to diminish, the dryness would be disastrous to agriculture. Schemes of replanting have been suggested, and in some directions started. Prosperity for Chile depends largely upon moisture, and the reduction of forest area reduces that also.

### German Exiles in "Eden"

The Germans had many difficulties to overcome before they turned a roadless, wild desert and a handful of huts, inhabited by Indians, little above the level of savages, into a well-cultivated colony and a flourishing town. To begin with, speculation in land, very much like that described by

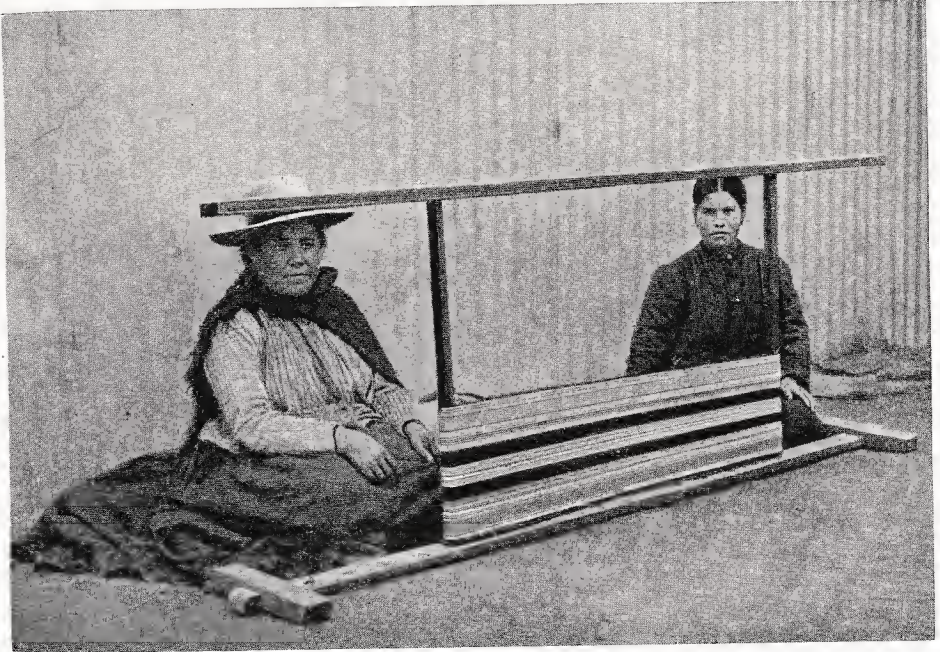


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Dickens in "Martin Chuzzlewit," broke out as soon as the idea of colonisation was talked of. Land sharks sent their agents to the Indian chiefs with cases of brandy, and persuaded them easily to sign away their rights and those of their tribes. The lands thus acquired were sold to emigration agencies in Europe. The emigrants who repurchased them were unaware that much of their property was covered by dense forest and poisonous swamp, and that any lots which had advantages to

summer immense flocks of small birds utterly destroyed the crops. The clergy disliked having a Protestant population set down among their people and made themselves unpleasant. But the colonists worked steadily with courage, and have thrived mightily for their pains. One of their activities is supplying Chile with excellent light beer.

Still farther south from Valdivia there are regions inhabited almost entirely by Indians of a primitive type. There is a tribe called the Yaghans,



WARM WINTER CLOTHING IN THE WEAVING

While her menfolk are hunting the guanaco, that highly-prized little quadruped of the genus to which the llama belongs, the Araucanian wife is spinning guanaco wool, after which she will dye it, red being the colour of her first choice, and weave it into material. The guanaco provides these Indians with many a warm garment, and their bee-hive huts are carpeted with its soft skin

*Photo, Brown Bros.*

recommend them were claimed by several people, in spite of the bargains driven with the Indian chiefs.

When the first emigrants arrived they found no place of settlement. They were in despair. Then a local proprietor gave an example of Chilean generosity and kindness. He parcelled out his estate into lots, and sold them at reasonable prices. Others did the same, the claimants were dealt with, a steady stream of settlers flowed in. One winter there was a famine. One

which wanders about by the ocean, living on shell-fish, and moving from beach to beach in canoes of their own building, or rather hollowing. If they are caught in bad weather, the men are said to have no hesitation in "lightening the ship" by throwing their wives and children overboard. When food is short, the old women are eliminated from the food list by strangulation. An Indian who was told by a white man that such a practice was abominable, especially when they kept their dogs





#### JUAN FERNANDEZ: ERSTWHILE RESORT OF A FAMOUS PRIVATEER

The main island of a small group in the South Pacific, included in the province of Valparaiso, Juan Fernandez was for some years the solitary residence of Alexander Selkirk, the Scottish sailor and supposed original of Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, whose privateering exploits are world-famous. Its mountainous and rocky shores are frequently visited by Chilean fishermen

*Photo, Heffer, Santiago*



#### EASTER ISLAND: THE PUZZLE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Scattered fragments of bygone culture and art, traceable to a Melanesian source, are found in profusion about this lonely islet, belonging to Chile and known as Rapanui, or Easter Island, since its discovery by the Dutch admiral, Roggeveen, on Easter Day, 1722. Huge monolithic statues, rock carvings and stone faces are relics which present an ethnological problem still unsolved

*Photo, P. H. Edmunds*





#### A UNIVERSAL CRAFT AND THE ARAUCANIAN INDIAN

The Araucanians are distributed between the southern provinces of the Argentine Republic and of Chile, as we have seen in our section on Argentina. The Araucanian woman in this excellent photograph of the interior of an Indian choza is engaged in the weaving of the coarse but serviceable cloth used for the ponchos of her tribesmen and the peon class of Chileans

alive, replied with a cunning leer, "Doggie catch otter, old woman, no." These Yaghans cannot be civilized. When they are given clothes to wear and white men's food, they die. It is unlikely that the few who are left will survive much longer.

Another tribe of rather more respectable habits wanders on the plains of Southern Chile. The Onas are hunters. Formerly they hunted the guanaco, and from it got their food, their clothing (the hide), their tools (made of its bones, polished and



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sharpened), and their bowstrings (its sinews). This creature, almost extinct now on these prairies, was a strange mixture. It has been described as possessing the head and ears of a mule, the body of a camel, the feet of a stag, and the tail of a horse. In order to shoot the guanaco, the Onas were trained to squat for hours at a time without moving. They were very good shots, as they proved by practising with the bow and arrow at one another.

They seldom hit one another, for the person aimed at is exceedingly quick and agile in leaping aside. There always is a leap, however, which shows the aim to be accurate. The native Indians of Patagonia are the subject of a pendant article to this description of Chile, and no more need be said of the indigenous races here.

The most southerly town in Chile is Punta Arenas (Sandy Point), with a population not far short of ten thousand.



ARAUCANIAN WOMAN OF SOUTHERN CHILE

A stocky, vigorous, and not unpleasant-featured people are the natives of the race whom the Spanish conquerors never succeeded in entirely subduing. Their habits are primitive, and although not models of cleanliness, they might compare not unfavourably with certain gipsy races of Europe. The women have few ornaments, but they like them large, as the ear-pieces here, and of silver

*Photo, Allan, Valparaiso*



In this district sheep can be bred with unusually long and thick wool. The animals owe this protection to the severe cold they have to endure. The first breeders were Australians or New Zealanders (it is not a long voyage from Australia to this part of Chile), and they sold their wool at very good prices. Upon their success followed a frenzied land boom. Numbers of sham companies were formed to acquire and sell lands suitable for the new venture. Prices were forced up to absurd heights. Then the bottom fell out of the boom, and many of the foolish speculators were ruined.

Since then the sheep-raising industry has returned steady profits, but it is not capable of any great development, since the amount of land affording pasture is limited. The port of Punta Arenas does a big trade in wool, and also ships a quantity of frozen meat. It is a windy town, and the climate is inclined to be cold even in summer, but it is not

unhealthy. A good deal of the business is in the hands of Scotsmen, who compare the weather favourably with that of Scotland.

Foreigners, it is noticeable, generally speak well of Chile and the Chileans, whatever part they may have lived in. It is a country less visited by Europeans than are the Argentine and Brazil, but among its inhabitants there are many from European states, and, as a rule, they not only express their attachment to so fertile and flowery a land, but prove that they are sincere by staying there in preference to living anywhere else. Of all the countries of South America known to the writer, Central Chile and Uruguay make the strongest appeals, and it would be Santiago or Valparaíso he would choose for his home were fate to call him to the Pacific side, just as it would be, unhesitatingly, Montevideo were he free to choose his city of residence on the east.

## II. A Note About The Patagonian Indians

By H. Hesketh Prichard

Author of "The Hunting Indians of Patagonia," "The Tehuelche Indian," etc.

THE Patagonian Indians have long been fabled in story; in fact, ever since Magellan kidnapped two of them shortly after he and his men, landing on the Patagonian beaches, had seen enormous footsteps in the sand, this tribe has gained the reputation of possessing the stature of giants. As a matter of fact, the Patagonian Indians, the Tehuelches, are the tallest race which inhabit the earth, but the early accounts which gave them a height of 7 ft., and even more, are incorrect, the average height of the men being an inch or two above 6 ft.

The Patagonian Indians, as I shall call them—and by this name I refer to the Tehuelche tribe, who hunt all over the rolling pampas stretching between the Andes and the Atlantic Ocean, and between the great rivers which cut the South American Continent in two about the 38th parallel of latitude

and the Magellan Straits—are now a race of horsemen, but the introduction of horses is of quite recent date. One hundred and fifty years ago they were foot Indians, but now their whole lives are centred round the horse.

They are true nomads, true hunters, who wander after the game across their vast hunting-ground, and who live a life—those who are now left of them—as free as the world has ever known.

It is very difficult to state accurately the present number of these Indians, but that their numbers are dwindling is certain. However, the tribe holds so remarkable a place in the life of the pampas that some account of them cannot fail to be interesting.

First as regards their religion. It may be said that they worship a good spirit, who many years ago, according to Indian beliefs, took up his dwelling in a cave in the interior of the country,





#### MEN WHO WALK AS TREES AMONG THEIR FELLOWS

The migrations of these wandering giants, the Tehuelches, are difficult to follow. Among the mountain-passes of the Southern Andes they carry on a trade in guanaco skins with the white man. Otherwise, they have but little intercourse with their neighbours; but the itinerant trader, knowing their weakness for the magical fiery draught, haunts their toldos with business-like pertinacity

*Photo, American Museum of Natural History, New York*

or rather in the cordillera, and from that vantage ground poured out blessings upon his people. He gave to them the guanaco, the guenal, the ostrich, and the cavy, the four great stand-bys of the nomad hunter's existence, and then, having blessed his people, this good spirit fell into a long slumber. But in the Indian religion there is a second god, or rather demon, who is known as the Gualicho. As soon as the good spirit fell asleep, according to Indian legend, the Gualicho woke up, and proceeded to do harm to the tribes. He made the fox, the red wolf, and all the birds of prey, and he himself was not averse from descending upon a single Indian and doing him an injury.

The Gualicho is a very real superstition of Indian life, and it is a strange thing to one who happens to be inhabiting the tents or toldos of the Indians to see how every morning, just before sunrise, the warriors light torches and proceed to drive the Gualicho from the

back of their tents. This they do with a great outcry; sometimes even they mount their horses, and still waving their torches, drive him, as they imagine, out into the pampas.

So far the simple religion of the Indian. Now as to the methods of his daily life. He is probably as perfect a specimen of the true nomad hunter as the world has to show. There is down the centre of Patagonia a narrow path, perhaps only eighteen inches wide and many a thousand mile long, which is known as the Indian trail. Up and down this the Indian tribes wander. It leads from good camping ground to good camping ground, and it touches all the points at which game is abundant.

The Indian of these days possesses a certain number of cattle and flocks of sheep, but this is very recent, and in old days he possessed nothing but his skill as a hunter, and of course his horses. Even to-day it is by hunting that he lives, and the main article which he manufactures is the



## CHILE: PATAGONIAN INDIANS

capa of guanaco skin. He sells also, or rather barter, the feathers of the rhea, or Patagonian ostrich, but his main wealth comes from the guanaco.

His methods of hunting are remarkable. He uses no bow and arrow, but

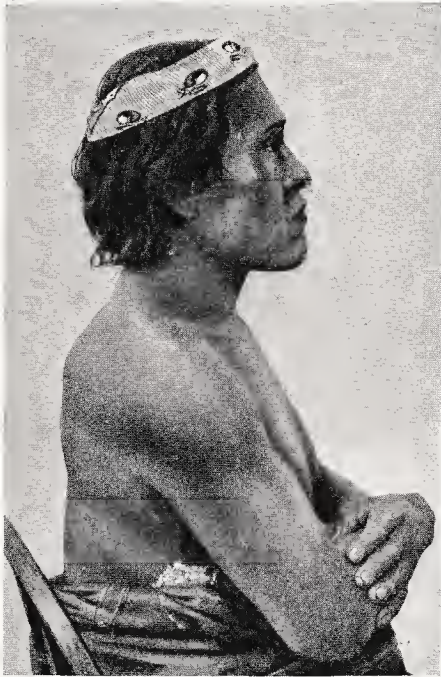
numbers of country-bred dogs, some of which are very skilful in hunting down their prey.

Let us imagine that it is a hunting morning in the camp of the Tehuelches. The cacique, or hereditary chief, makes the arrangements for the hunt. He has, perhaps, forty warriors who will take part in it. Before dawn, each of these warriors saddles up his horse and rides away to a spot appointed for him. Besides the horse he rides he leads a second animal, which he will ride when his first mount is weary. In his belt he takes a pinch of salt, nothing more, nor does he eat anything before starting, for it is the Indian rule that on hunting mornings the Indian shall not eat until he has killed.

Each Indian rides away as has been described, the plan of the cacique being to make an immense circle of men converging upon a certain point. Towards this central point the entire circle will drive the game. As the dawn brightens, a watcher, could he be there, might see smoke going up to heaven from various points of the landscape, all around the huge circle. Then the circle begins to close in. Now and again the Indian gets off his horse and lights another smoke, to give his direction to his comrades, until at length the Indians can see each other all converging and driving before them an immense quantity of the game of the country. There may be as many as five or six thousand guanaco, numbers of cavies, perhaps even a puma or two, and many ostriches. As soon as the circle is close enough, the Indians light fires all round so that the game cannot escape. Then they rush in, and with their dogs and boleadores the slaughter begins.

These battues, for so we may term them, take place usually just before the breeding season, when the female guanacos are heavy with young, the reason being that the skin of the mature guanaco is valueless for the purpose of making capas, but the skins of the unborn young are very soft, and it is from these that the capas are fashioned.

As the Indians rush in there is a scene of terrible slaughter, and for many



NIMROD OF THE PAMPAS

The true nomad hunter. Among the rugged Andean strongholds, and the surrounding vast treeless plains, the Tehuelche lives his primitive picturesque life in a world of his own

*Photo, H. Hesketh Prichard*

instead gallops down his quarry, which he kills with the boleadores. This is a three-thonged weapon, at the extremity of each thong being a stone sewn up in the raw hide. This weapon the Tehuelche Indian can use with extraordinary skill. When galloping at full speed he hurls it, first swinging it round his head, at the legs of the flying guanaco, and rarely does he fail to bring the beast to the ground, for the guanaco, when struck by the boleadores, becomes entangled in its coils, which wrap themselves round his legs and finally bring him to the ground. The Indian then leaps from his horse and kills the guanaco with his knife. In his hunt he is accompanied by large



## CHILE: PATAGONIAN INDIANS

a mile the ground is covered with the corpses of the hunted. When the hunt is over the tribe moves up and camps on the ground, and both women and men work at the skinning and preparation of the pelts, which lasts for several days. Afterwards these are handed over to the squaws, or, rather, as they call them among the Tehuelches, the *chinas*, who sew them into the capas which are sold for such high prices in the various coast towns.

It is a hard life that the Indians live in one of the hardest countries in the world. It is true that the game never decreases enough to cause a famine, but it is also true, a fact which is hardly realizable in more favoured countries, that Patagonia, both on the ground and in the air, is the home of more scavenging birds and beasts than can be easily imagined. It is quite impossible to tie out a horse with a hide *soga*; he will not be there for a quarter of an hour before the foxes will have gnawed through the *soga* in order to eat it. And if there does not happen to be a fox there, which is a very rare event, there is pretty sure to be a red wolf. If anything dies on the Patagonian pampas it is picked clean within a couple or three hours.

This is the doing of the great condors, which sometimes measure 12 ft. across the tips of the wings; but besides the condors there are many varieties of hawk and other birds of prey, such as the *chimango* and the *corancho*.

The character of the Tehuelches is distinctly pleasant, for though silent they are men of an open nature. A great many stories have come down of the great sufferings endured by Europeans who were captured by them, but

the writer of these pages was never able to substantiate any of these tales. On the contrary, the Indian respects the white man until he is driven to do otherwise, and will often give him a helping hand in gathering his horses, and accept no reward. The Indians are now at any rate quite peaceful, and never interfere with the traveller. They have always been of a quiet and stolid nature, living their picturesque lives in a world of their own. They have not been well treated by the various governments; and the great curse which



THREE MEN OF THE LARGE-FOOTED TRIBE

Hide overshoes cover their buskins in bad weather, partly explaining the term "*patagon*"—large foot, applied to the Tehuelches by their Spanish discoverers. Brave of heart, they fear nothing save the red wolf, great condor, and rapacious puma, which play havoc with their flocks

*Photo, Allan, Valparaíso*

for some years past has overshadowed their lives is the presence of the itinerant trader. This man carries with him the worst quality of whisky, which he sells to the Indians, and will continue to do so, law or no law. Once an Indian has drunk a glass or two he will sell everything he has got—his splendid horses, his store of capa robes, his everything, to obtain a little more. There is no need to labour the terrible possibilities which these weaknesses entail.





# A CHILEAN GOVERNMENT SCHOOL WHERE ARAUCANIANS MAY RECEIVE AN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

The warlike Araucanians stand out as the Iroquois of South American Indians. In them the Spaniards found such worthy foemen that the poet Ercilla celebrated their conquest by the epic "La Araucana," the most famous literary monument of the Conquistadores. The proud tribes long remained menacing neighbours to the colonists. Now they are quiet and law-abiding, and the Chilean Government is doing its best to bring them within the scope of the national educational system.

San Antonio



# Chile

## III. The Foundations of the Republic

By W. H. Koebel

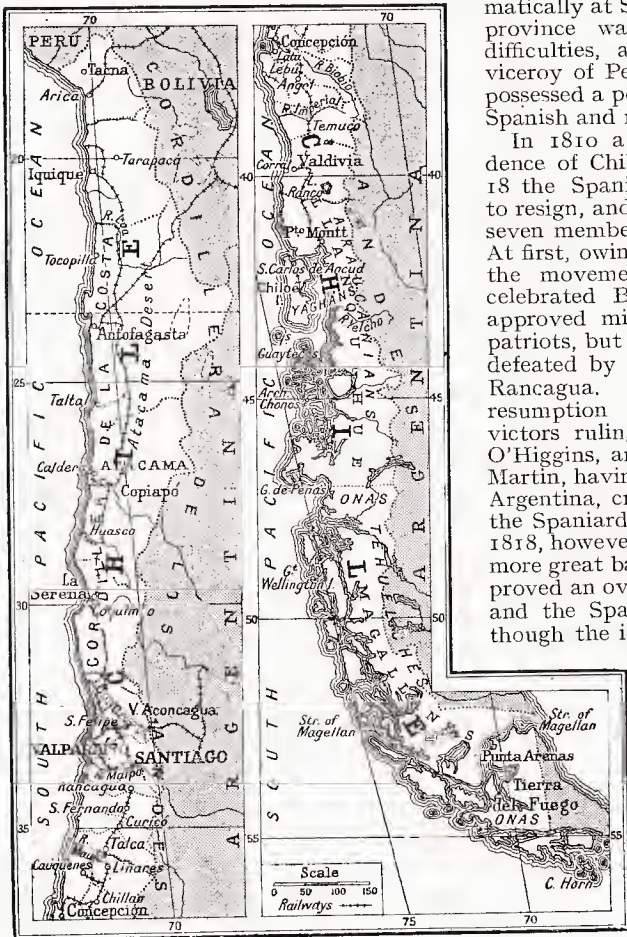
Author of "Modern Chile"

THE original inhabitants of Chile were Indians of a not very high level of civilization. In the fifteenth century, the northern and central parts of the country were invaded and conquered by the Inca of Peru, Yupanqui, but the southern portion continued to be held by the fierce and warlike Araucanian Indians. In 1535-36 Chile was invaded from Bolivia by the Spanish leader Diego de Almagro, and in 1540 Pizarro sent Pedro de Valdivia to conquer the country. Valdivia founded Santiago and other towns, but was defeated and killed by the Indians in 1553.

During the next century a continuous warfare was waged between the Araucanian tribes and the Spaniards. An unparalleled resistance was offered, the Spanish settlements being repeatedly destroyed and their viceroy, De Villagran, being killed in 1563. In 1640 a treaty was signed by Quillin, leaving the Indians in undisturbed possession of the region south of the Bio-Bio. Fifteen years later war broke out again, and there were further desperate struggles in 1723 and 1766. The Araucanians continued to hold their own, and by a treaty of 1767 they were permitted the right to be represented diplomatically at Santiago. Spanish rule of the province was carried on under great difficulties, and was subservient to the viceroy of Peru at Lima. In 1800, Chile possessed a population of half a million, of Spanish and mixed nationality.

In 1810 a movement for the independence of Chile began, and on September 18 the Spanish governor was compelled to resign, and a provisional government of seven members was installed in his stead. At first, owing largely to divided councils, the movement did not succeed. The celebrated Bernardo O'Higgins was the approved military leader of the Chilean patriots, but in 1814 his army was signally defeated by the Spanish under Osorio at Rancagua. This led to the temporary resumption of Spanish authority, the victors ruling with great severity. But O'Higgins, and an Argentine general, San Martin, having organized a patriot army in Argentina, crossed the Andes, and routed the Spaniards at Chacabuco. On April 3, 1818, however, the patriots had to fight one more great battle, that of the Maipo. This proved an overwhelming defeat for Osorio, and the Spaniards were finally expelled, though the island of Chiloé held out for Spain until 1826.

During the next few years Chile greatly assisted in the independence of Peru, thanks to the co-operation of the British Admiral, Cochrane, and to the invasion of Peru by San Martin's army. Political dissensions brought about the resignation of O'Higgins in 1823, and then followed a period of anarchy. In 1830 a



CHILE AND ITS PEOPLES



## CHILE: HISTORICAL

military coup d'état and the important battle of Lircay led to the election of General Prieto as president (1831-41). Prieto, who formulated the present Chilean constitution, waged successful war against Peru and Bolivia in 1836, and easily defeated them.

His next two successors as presidents were General Bulnes (1841-51) and Manuel Montt (1851-61). So far these administrations had been Conservative, but in 1861 a Liberal was returned to power in the person of José Pérez, who, in 1865, went to war with Spain. This campaign, which was entered upon out of sympathy for Peru in a local dispute, led to a Spanish blockade and the bombardment of Valparaíso. The chief episode of Federico Errázuriz' presidency (1871-76) was the increase and improvement of the navy. During the rule of President Pinto (1876-81), a serious financial crisis was averted by the issue of a paper currency, and war broke out with the Peru-Bolivian confederation in 1879. This struggle, waged for possession of the valuable mineral provinces of Tarapacá, Tacna and Arica, continued until 1881.

### Chilean Triumphs on Land and Sea

The Chilean army and navy were completely triumphant at all points. On October 8, 1879, the Chilean cruisers *Almirante Cochrane* and *Esmeralda* sank the Peruvian ironclad *Huascar*, when the latter's brave commander Grau was killed. In 1880 the Chileans blockaded Lima and won the victory of Tacna, and in January, 1881, after further decisive victories at Chorrillos and Miraflores, the Peruvian capital was occupied. Before peace could be negotiated, Pinto was succeeded as president of Chile by Santa María (September, 1881). Peace was not ratified until 1884, when Peru ceded Tarapacá to Chile, while Tacna and Arica became Chilean for ten years, at the end of which period the inhabitants were to determine by vote whether they wished to be Peruvian or Chilean.

President Santa María's term ended in 1886, and José Manuel Balmaceda was elected. He became unpopular with the majority, and when (January 1, 1896) he illegally decreed that the budget for 1890 should be deemed the budget for 1891, a revolutionary movement broke out. The fleet was won over by Admiral Montt, whom Balmaceda proclaimed a traitor. The president now sought to assume dictatorial powers, and civil war began, the revolutionary party raising an army of ten thousand. In April, 1891, the cruiser *Blanco Encalada* was torpedoed in Caldera Bay by the Balmacedan ship *Almirante Lynch*, with a loss of 300 lives. A provisional government was inaugurated by the rebels at Iquique, with Admiral Montt at its head. Meanwhile, Balmaceda's

autocratic measures had alienated public opinion. In a pitched battle at Placilla (August 28, 1891) his army was utterly routed, his generals Alcérrika and Barbosa were killed, and Valparaíso and Santiago occupied. Balmaceda fled to the Argentine Legation, where on September 18 he committed suicide. So ended a civil war which had cost 10,000 lives and £10,000,000 sterling. A pendent to it was a peremptory demand of the U.S.A. for an indemnity, arising out of an affray between Chilean and United States seamen at Valparaíso, Chile being compelled to pay £15,000 as compensation.

### Frontier Delimitation Problems

Señor Vicuña having been elected but declining to take office, Admiral Montt, the maritime hero of the revolutionary war, was now elected president of Chile by a practically unanimous vote. He promptly granted an amnesty to all concerned in the recent struggle. In 1895 he proclaimed a gold currency for Chile, and, trouble having arisen with Argentina over the boundary question, induced that country to agree to the arbitration of Great Britain. General Federico Errázuriz, the son of Federico Errázuriz (president 1871-76), became president in 1896. War with Argentina appeared imminent, and led to a financial panic and reversion to a paper-money currency. At length, two separate international commissions adjusted the disputes with Argentina concerning the Atacama and Patagonian territories respectively—a United States commissioner assisting in the one case, and the problem of Patagonia being confided to a British commission. The settlement of the outstanding questions with Peru and Bolivia still hung fire, Peru insisting that only Peruvian subjects, and not all nationals in the country, should vote as to the future of Tacna and Arica. Argentina took exception to a Chilean note to Bolivia (1900) to the effect that, after sixteen years' delay, Chile must insist upon a settlement and must decline to grant Bolivia any port upon the Pacific coast.

### War Superseded by Arbitration

President Errázuriz resigned in May, 1901, and died a few weeks later, the liberal Señor Riesco being elected in his stead. At the close of the year relations again became so strained between Chile and Argentina that military measures were on the eve of being resorted to. A happy solution was found in the selection of one of the British arbitrators, Sir T. H. Holdich, to make a personal survey of the Chile-Argentina frontier. What has been styled the Holdich Award was signed by King Edward VII. on November 20, 1902, and was warmly greeted by both republics. It was further provided that any subsequent differences between the



## CHILE : HISTORY

two Powers should be submitted either to the Government of Great Britain or to that of Switzerland. In 1905 the question at issue with Bolivia was also at last arranged. Bolivia relinquished her demand for a seaport, while Chile consented to build and equip a line of railway from Arica to La Paz, and to grant Bolivia free access to the sea.

The next president, Pedro Montt, assumed the reins of office in September, 1906—almost immediately after the devastating earthquake which laid Valparaíso in ruins, partially destroyed Santiago, and cost several thousand lives. Señor Montt chiefly concerned himself with the commercial prosperity of the country, and such

important enterprises as the linking-up of Valparaíso and Buenos Aires, and of the far Chilean north with the distant south, by railway, were completed.

President Montt died in 1910, before his term of office had expired. It fell to the lot of his successor, Señor Ramón Barros Luco, to face the perilous situation created by the outbreak of the Great War in August, 1914. He was succeeded by President Juan Luis Sanfuentes (elected 1915), who was still in power when the struggle ended in 1918. In October, 1920, Señor Arturo Alessandri was elected to the presidency, the problems with which he had to contend being of the industrial order rather than those concerned with international politics.

## CHILE : FACTS AND FIGURES

### The Country

Extending in a long, narrow strip along the South Pacific coast, from Peru on the north to Cape Horn on the south, it is separated from Bolivia and Argentina on the east by the Andes (highest peak, Aconcagua, 23,997 ft.). Includes greater part of Tierra del Fuego, Juan Fernandez, and other islands, some uninhabited, and the Straits of Magellan. Width from 50 to 200 miles; length over 2,500 miles. Total area, 289,829 square miles; population, 3,792,000.

Mainland consists of agricultural and pastoral area, with desert to north and forest region in south; rich central valley lies between Andes and coast. Principal rivers: Bio-Bio, Maipo, Maule, Itata, Bueno. Several lakes in south (largest Llanquihue, 300 square miles; and Ranco, 200 square miles). Longitudinal railway, owned by Government, runs from north to south, with branches to chief ports. Railway from Arica and Antofagasta runs through Andine passes to Bolivia. Transandine line connects Valparaíso and Santiago with Buenos Aires. Total length of railways over 5,400 miles. Electrification of railways commenced 1921 between Valparaíso and Santiago. Over 30 wireless stations along coast. Coasting trade served by 56 ports, of which 12 open to foreign trade. There are 497 miles of navigable lakes and 850 miles of navigable rivers.

### Government and Constitution

Republic, divided into 23 provinces, sub-divided into 82 departments and one territory. Executive power exercised by President, elected for term of five years, and Council, of which five members nominated by President and six by Congress. Legislative authority vested in National Congress, consisting of Senate of 37 members elected by provinces for six years, and Chamber of Deputies of 118 members elected by departments for three years. Both are returned by same electors, franchise being practically confined to literates and property-holders.

### Defence

Service in national militia compulsory from 18 to 45; recruits receive one year's training, followed by 9 years in the active army reserve, then in second reserve till 45. Strength of regular army about 23,000. Air force formed under British instruction with 80 aeroplanes and 14 seaplanes purchased in Great Britain.

Navy consists of one battleship, formerly H.M.S. Canada, six cruisers, four destroyers, and six submarines purchased from Great Britain,

besides ten other destroyers, three torpedo-boats, patrol vessels, and other craft. Personnel about 5,000. Arsenal and dockyard at Talcahuano.

### Commerce and Industries

Mining and agriculture are chief industries. Besides gold and silver, minerals include copper nitrates, coal and iron. Great deposits of nitrate are found in the north, in desert of Atacama, known as pampa salitrera, 500 miles long, and from 2,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level, and form with copper principal articles of export. Chile is world's second largest producer of copper. Other products are borax, cobalt, iodine, manganese, sulphur, guano. Iron-ore deposits in Atacama and Coquimbo estimated at 1,000,000,000 tons. Coal mines south of Valparaíso produced one-and-a-half million tons in 1919.

Wheat is most extensively cultivated cereal; vines yielded 26,000,000 gallons of wine in 1920. Fruit trees cover 277,000 acres; forest area, 9,500,000 acres. Live-stock include 43,000 alpacas. Sheep farming in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Wool and frozen meat exported from Punta Arenas in Magellan Strait.

Imports, £34,130,945; exports, £58,412,642.

### Chief Towns

Santiago de Chile, the capital (population, 507,296), Valparaíso (182,242), Concepción (66,074), Antofagasta (51,531), Iquique (37,421), Talca (36,079), Chillan (30,881), Viña del Mar (33,441), Temuco (28,546), Valdivia (26,854), Talcahuano (22,084), Curico (15,579), La Serena (15,240).

### Religion and Education

State religion Roman Catholic, but toleration for all others. Archbishopric at Santiago; three bishops and four vicars apostolic. About 600 churches and 800 chapels. Education free and compulsory; over 3,900 schools with 460,000 pupils. State and Catholic universities have over 5,000 students. Industrial universities opened at Valparaíso and Concepción. National library contains over 286,000 volumes.

Peasantry and working population in towns show considerable Indian or Araucanian strain and are mostly illiterate. Indigenous inhabitants belong to three separate branches, Araucans in valleys and western slopes of Andes, Changos in north, employed almost entirely as labourers, and nomadic Fuegians in south. Araucans number over 100,000.





# SHRINE OF SACRED MEMORIES: THE TEMPLE OF HEAVEN, PEKING

In the ancient Outer City of Peking, among the temples surrounding the Altar of Heaven, is the Temple of Heaven, wherein, at midnight of the winter solstice and during famine and drought, the emperor solemnly worshipped the Supreme Ruler Shang-ti. Circular, over one hundred feet in height, and triple-roofed with blue glazed porcelain tiles, it was burnt in 1889, but was rebuilt

*Photo, Herbert G. Ponting, F.R.G.S.*